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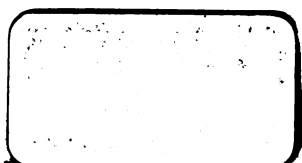
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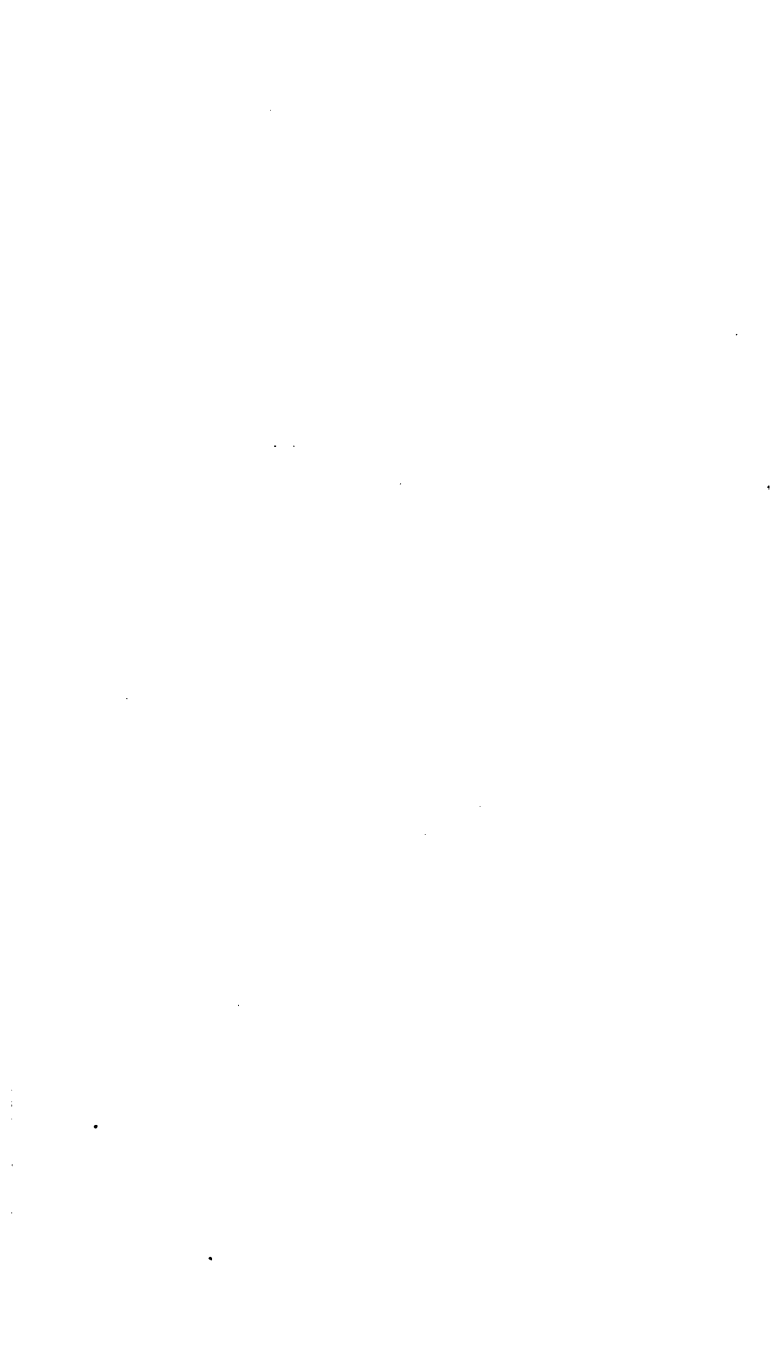
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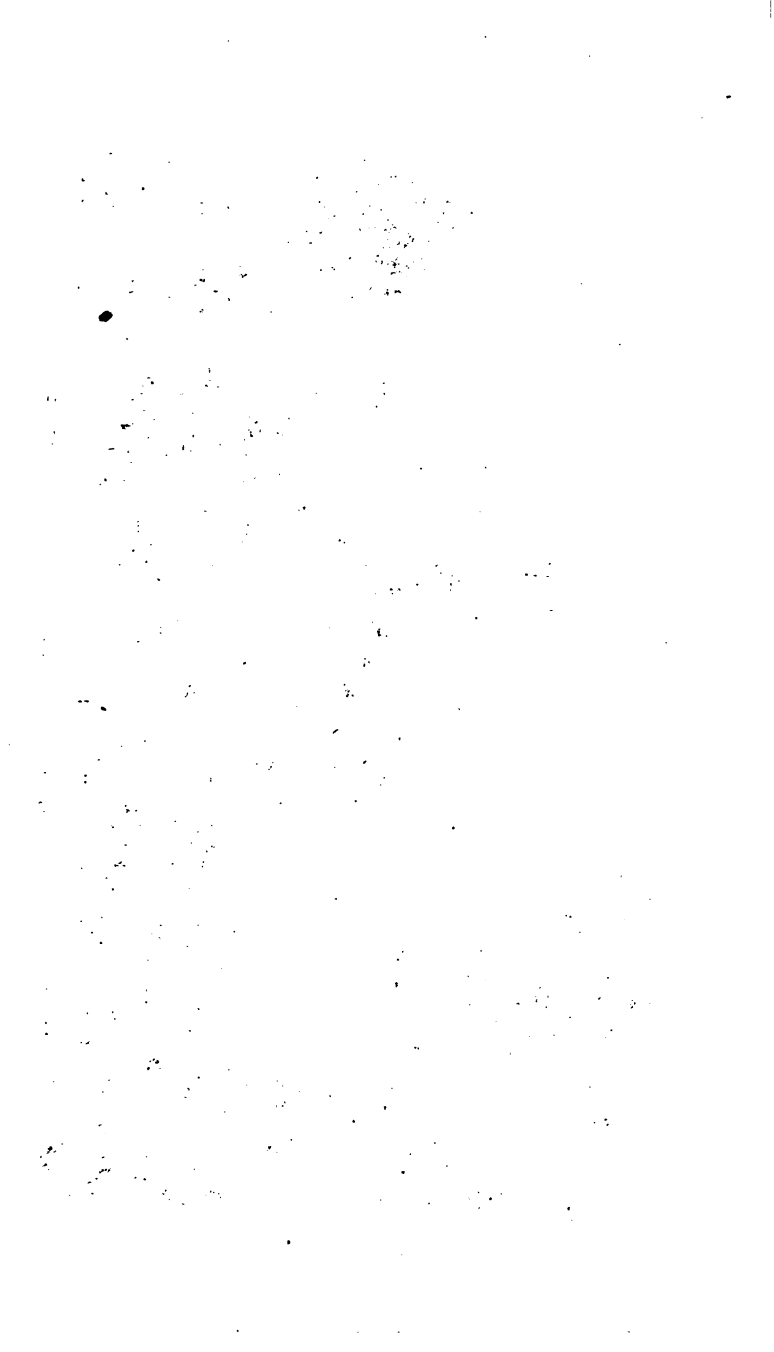
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**THE  
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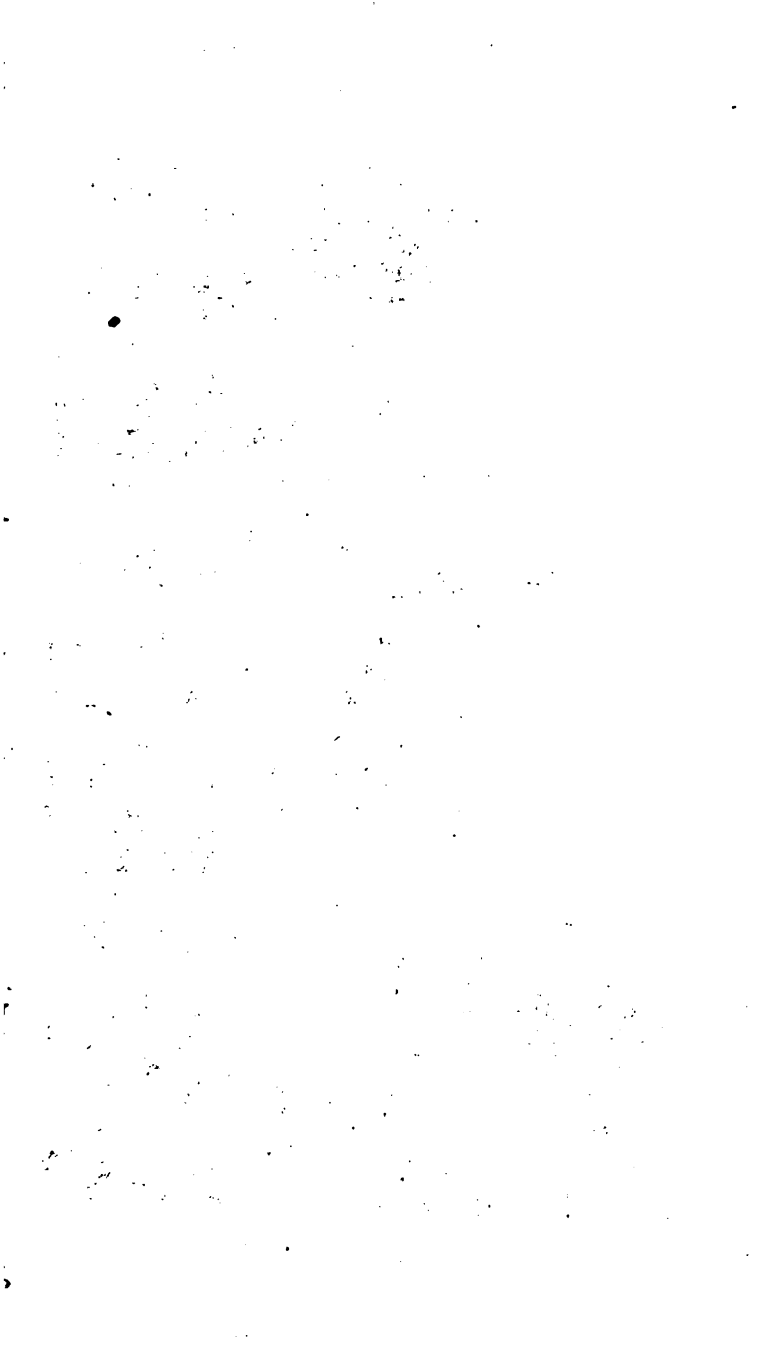


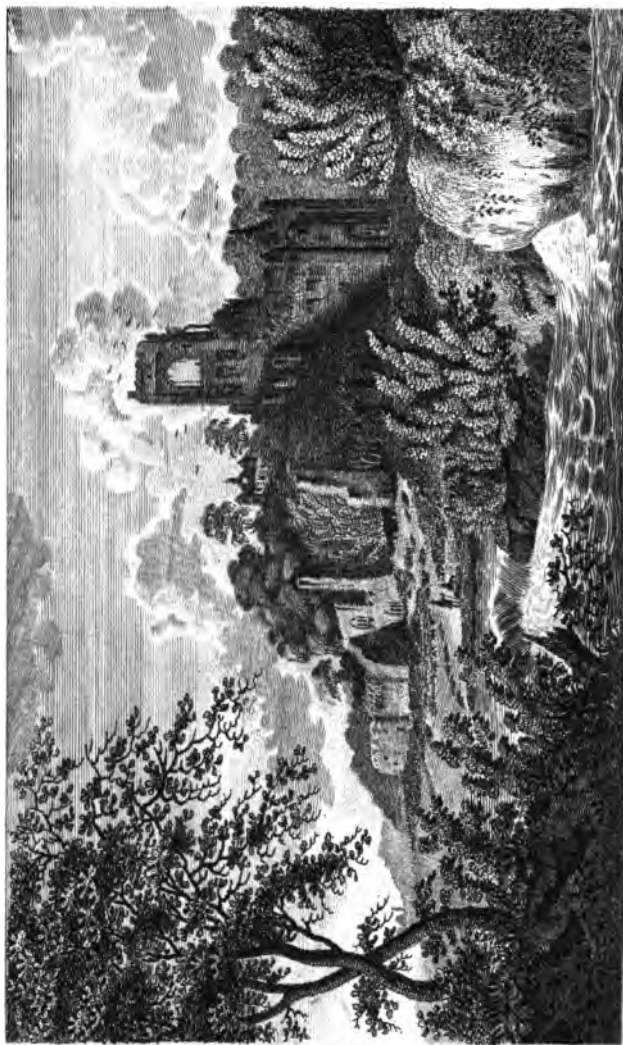


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Wm. L. 1800

(v. 1.)

VIEW OF KIRKSTALL ABBEY.

Illustration of the R. Leeds

THE  
**LEEDS GUIDE;**  
INCLUDING  
A SKETCH OF THE ENVIRONS,  
AND  
**KIRKSTALL ABBEY.**

---

Enchanting vale! beyond whate'er the Muse  
Has of Achaia, or Hesperia sung!  
O Vale of Bliss! O softly swelling Hills  
On which the Power of cultivation lies,  
And joys to see the wonder of his Toil.  
Heavens! what a goodly prospect spreads around,  
Of Hills, and Dales, and Woods, and Lawns, and Spires,  
And glittering Towns, and gilded Streams.

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LEEDS:  
PRINTED BY EDWARD BAINES,  
*For the Author;*  
AND SOLD BY R. BROWN, NORTH-PARADE, AND  
THE PRINCIPAL BOOKSELLERS.

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1806.





TO  
**WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, Esq. M.P.**

ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF

THE COUNTY OF YORK,

WHOSE EXERTIONS IN

*THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY*

HAVE BEEN ZEALOUS AND UNREMITTING ;

AND WHOSE ATTENTION TO THE

COMMERCIAL INTEREST OF THIS

POPULOUS COUNTY,

HAS BEEN VIGILANT AND UNCEASING :

***This small Sketch,***

OF ONE OF ITS MOST FLOURISHING DISTRICTS,

IS WITH GREAT DEFERENCE

INSCRIBED BY THE

***AUTHOR.***



## PREFACE.

---

**T**HE importance of Leeds as a Commercial Town, and its situation in the midst of a populous manufacturing district, renders it a matter of surprize, that no History, not even a Sketch of its present state is to be procured. Mr. Thoresby's History of Leeds, which was published in 1715, must necessarily from the mere lapse of time be deficient in many articles of the first importance; a cumbeious folio also is not suited to the present age of readers; and its numerous genealogies are not likely to interest many in the present generation; and to which may be further added, that it is now scarcely possible to procure a copy of it: this last observation will also equally apply to a small anonymous History of Leeds, published some years since.

Under these circumstances it was presumed that a Sketch of Leeds and its Environs, embracing its former state and its present situation,



would be generally acceptable: to the stranger it may afford new and valuable information, and serve at least to refresh the memory of the resident inhabitant, if it should fail of communicating much original information. But more than this is not professed by the Author of the *Guide of Leeds*; he enters upon no knotty points of Antiquarian research, but without neglecting to notice the vestiges of former days, his principal attention has been to describe the town as it at present appears:—in fine, if in the humble office of a *Guide* he shall be found faithful and intelligent, his ambition will be gratified—he seeks no higher fame;

As the *Guide to Leeds* was written in haste, and sent to the press as soon as it was written, it is probable that some errors and inaccuracies may have escaped detection: to the elegancies of language it makes no pretensions; if however the former should not be so great as to impeach its fidelity, the latter will be easily pardoned. It is not to be expected of a *Guide* that he should be eloquent.

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### ERRATA.

Page 2, line 17, for *East* read *West*.

THE  
LEEDS GUIDE.

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'Far to the North, where bold Brigantian kings  
'Rul'd awful, ere the Martial clime was hail'd  
'By the lov'd name of York.'

---

*HISTORICAL SKETCH.*

THE origin of the first inhabitants of this island is not to be traced with any degree of certainty ; all the assistance that tradition can furnish is vague and unsatisfactory. The universal opinion is, that it was peopled at various times from different parts of the Continent, and also that some colonies were planted here by the Greek and Phœnician Merchants. Julius Cæsar observes, that he found the sea coasts peopled with Belgians, who still retained the names of the several states from whence they were descended.

Colony propelling colony still farther and farther into the country; these in process of time formed themselves into petty states, seventeen of which were established in Britain before the arrival of the Romans. The most numerous of these principalities were the Brigantes or first comers, whose dominion extended over all that region which is now divided into the five counties of York, Durham, Westmoreland, Cumberland and Lancaster; in which extent near twenty cities owned their subjection to **ISEUR\***, which being the capital of the most powerful state in Britain, must of course have been then the chief city in the island. Fifteen miles S. W. of the scite of this Brigantian capital stands the populous town of Leeds, situated 196 miles North of London, 208 South of Edinburgh, 220 East of Amsterdam, 425 North-west of Paris, 946 North-west of Rome, 896 North-east of Madrid, 1046 North-west of Lisbon.

A true explanation of the word Leeds is almost unattainable from its remoteness—it is supposed by some to have derived its name from the British **Gair Loid Coit**—a town in a wood. It is believed by others to have been in ancient times the property of some great man, whose name was **Lede** or **Leod**,† and that the villages of **Ledsham**, **Ledston**, and **Lede Hall**, are all derived from the same origin; yet when we find that there is such a town

\* Now a village called **Aldbrough**, near **Boroughbridge**.

† **Nazan Leod**, a British chief, slain in a great battle against the **Saxons**. **HUME**.

as Leeds, on the river Dender, in Austrian Flanders, and a village called Holbeck, nor far from thence, we admit the probability of a town and village in Yorkshire, being thus named by some of our German ancestors from that part of the country.

The town of Leeds is situated on the river Aire\*, which runs nearly through the middle of it, in a direction from West to East. The parish extends about seven miles three furlongs from East to West, and is thirty miles in circumference, it is divided into ten townships exclusive of the township of Leeds, and a village at a mile distance.

The earliest mention of a town here is to be found in Bede who wrote above a thousand years ago, but no author that we are acquainted with gives any account of its original foundation. In the Roman maps for this country we find no account of it; but from the circumstance of it being frequently mentioned by Bede, we must conclude that it had its origin previous to, or early in the time of the Heptarchy, and the vestiges of Saxon antiquities in the town and neighbourhood, are sufficient proofs that it was a place of some note at that time.

Mr. Thoresby is of opinion that there must have been a town here in the time of the Romans,

\* This river which received its name from Araf (British) signifying *slow and easy*, is siled by Drayton, the daughter of lofty Pennicent.



and that under the government of the Saxons, this place was of still greater eminence, their kings erecting here their Regia Villa\*. which was their seat during the Heptarchy, and some of those stiled monarchs of the island resided here.

The notices to be found respecting the town of so remote a date, are equally uncertain and unimportant; and indeed the remarkable circumstances which have happened at long intervals, and unconnected, form but an indifferent subject for historical detail.

The Saxons after their conquests of the Scotch and Picts about the year 450, divided the territories of the Britons into seven shares, whence their government of this country was denominated the Heptarchy. Over each of these kingdoms or petty states presided a King. In this division the kingdom of Northumberland contained all that part of the island from the Humber Mouth to the Frith of Edinburgh, and from the German ocean to the Irish sea. This division of the country was subdivided into two parts, Deira and Bernicia. Ida, the first Saxon King began his reign in the year 547; he bore sway as King of the whole of Northumberland for the space of twelve years. Ida left two sons to whom he divided his dominions, and gave Deira to Ella whose kingdom comprized all from the Humber to the Tyne; and Bernicia to Ida his other son, which contained all

\* See Ossinhorpe.

Northward of that boundary. Of all the kingdoms of the Saxons, this of Deira was of the shortest continuance. It began by a division of the whole Northumbrian district between the sons of Ida, and was again united under Oswin 91 years after Ella.

Our Saxon conquerors were continually at variance among themselves, and engaged in cruel and bloody wars, in so much that their Princes rarely died a natural death. Osweo king of Bernicia, and Oswin of Deira going to war, Oswin was treacherously murdered, Osweo usurping the government of Deira.

Ethelwald, nephew to Oswin, being elected King of Northumberland, proceeded to assert his title against the usurper, and raising a considerable army was defeated. Instigated by a principle of revenge, he was prevailed upon to join the bloody minded Penda, the ferocious King of Mercia, (the Christians' old antagonist) against his own country. This savage prince raised a prodigious army, marched into Northumberland, swearing destruction to the North Saxons, and to the cause of Christianity. Not even the most humble concessions of the Northumbrians could arrest the fury of his ire, which aimed at no less than the extirpation of the Northumbrian Saxons.

The armies met at Winmoor, not far from the town of Leeds, December 655, near the river Aire

which is said to have suddenly overflowed its banks to the great inconvenience of the pagan army. The Northumbrians relying upon Providence, after offering up prayer to heaven, fell upon their enemies with such a determined resolution, that they soon gained a complete victory, slaying the cruel Penda in the field, together with his chief men. The wretched Ethelwald escaping with a fraction of his army, returned in disgrace to Deira.

Osweo before the battle of Winmoor, vowed to God, that if he gained the battle and became victorious, his infant daughter Elfred should be consecrated to religious duties, and perpetual virginity. She was committed to the care of St. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, whom she succeeded as Abbess, and was buried in the church there.

In the 20th of William I. Ilbert de Lacy had ten carucates, and six oxgangs of taxable land here, as much of which was arable as was sufficient for six ploughs. There was in the whole district at this time, twenty seven villeins and four fochmen, with fourteen ploughs, a church, and a mill; also ten acres in meadow, valued at seven pounds four shillings.

Here was a strong castle probably built by Ilbert de Lacy, who was possessed of extensive lands here about the reign of the Conqueror. This castle was besieged by King Stephen in his march towards Scotland in 1139. The scite of this fortress of which there is not any vestige remaining,

was situated at Mill-Hill. In the year 1322, King Edward II. being at York, issued out commissions of array, one of which was directed to Adam de Swillington, and William de Stargill, commanding them to raise all the defensible men in the Wapentake of Skyrack, between the age of sixteen and sixty, to be duly arrayed and led to the king with whom they were to march against the Scots.

During the reign of Richard II. Henry Lord Percy and his son Hotspur, reflecting on the public measures, were sent for to court, but refusing to attend, they were banished in 1398. The year following they joined Henry Duke of Lancaster while Richard was in Ireland, and assisted him in the measures which led to the deposition of that monarch.

The King being returned from Ireland, and hearing that the Duke of Lancaster was on the march towards him with an army, took post in the castle of Conway. Henry Lord Percy was deputed to wait upon the King, and if possible by stratagem, to draw him from the castle, and having with him a party of men, consisting of one hundred lances and two hundred archers; he placed these in a deep valley between two mountains and approaching with only seven persons in his train, was admitted into the royal presence, where by specious arguments and solemn promises, he persuaded the King with only twenty two persons in his retinue to leave the castle of

Conway, and take up his residence in that of Flint. When Richard was descending into the valley where the ambush was laid, perceiving a number of armed men with the banners of Percy, he could not forbear expressing to the Lords Salisbury and Carlisle, (two of his attendants) his apprehensions of being betrayed, and turning to Northumberland, told him if he thought he had deceived him he would instantly return to Conway, and spill the last drop of his blood in defence of his crown and dignity; 'that by St. George you shall not do this month replied the Earl,' for you must go with me to the Duke of Lancaster, and immediately seized his bridle, when the armed troops surrounded the King, and conveyed him a prisoner to the castle of Flint. The fallen monarch was afterwards conveyed to the castle of Leeds, and was confined here some time before his barbarous murder in Pontefract castle, as appears from the following extract from Hardyng's Chronicle :

' The kyng then sent kyng Richard to Ledis,  
' There to be kepte surely in privitye ;  
' Fro thens after to Pykering went he needis,  
' And to Knaresbro' after led was he,  
' But to Pontefrete last where he did dee.'

Lord Percy and his son Henry flourished a while under that royalty they had been so instrumental in establishing: but, impatient of the least controul from a prince they had so essentially

served, they both took arms, and fell at different periods fighting against Henry of Bolingbroke. Hotspur, at Shrewsbury, in the year 1403, the Earl his father being in arms against Henry IV. arrived with his forces in February, 1408, at Bramham-moor, near Wetherby, attended by Lord Bardolph, the Bishop of Bangor, and the Abbot of Wales, with a great number of other gentlemen, his adherents. Sir Thomas Rokeby, then high sheriff of Yorkshire having raised an army, met the rebels near Haslewood, a battle ensued, and the sheriff gained a complete victory: The Earl was slain in the field after having the misfortune to live to see most of his family cut off before him. The stock and root of the family of the name of Percy being thus miserably slain, his head covered with silver hairs, was put upon a stake, and carried through all the towns to London, and there placed upon the bridge. Lord Bardolph was made prisoner, and died a few days after of his wounds. The Abbot of Wales being found in arms, was executed at York with many others of his party. The Bishop of Bangor experienced a milder fate, for not being found in arms his life was spared. The King granted to Sir T. Rokeby, the manor of Spoffor, with all its appurtenances during his life. About this time a contagious distemper began in these parts, which in a short space swept off vast numbers of the inhabitants.

The town was incorporated in the second year of Charles I. and had a considerable share of the troubles of that reign during the contest between the King and his Parliament, many skirmishes and battles took place hereabouts, of which we extract the following from General Fairfax's Journal:

" On Monday, being the 23d of January, 1643, I marched from Bradford with six troops of horse and three companies of dragoons, under the command of Sir Henry Fowles, my Commissary, or Lieutenant-General of horse; and almost 1000 musketeers and 2000 club-men, under the command of Sir William Fairfax\*, Colonel and Lieutenant-General of the foot, one company of these also being dragoons under Capt. Mildmay, about 30 musketeers and 1000 club-men marched on the South side toward Wakefield, the rest on the North side toward Woodhouse moor. On the West side we commended the cause to God by prayer: I dispatched a trumpeter to Sir William Saville, commander in chief, at Leeds, under the Earl of Newcastle, requiring, in writing, the town to be delivered to me for the King and Parliament, to which Sir William disdainfully answered imme-

\* Thro' the influence of Cromwell, the rebels at Westminster voted him a pension of 100,000L. per ann. out of the delinquent's estates, after the Restoration the dead bodies of Cromwell, Ireton, and Bradshaw; were drawn on sledges to Tyburn, Jan. 3, 1661, and there hanged till after sun set, after which they were taken down and beheaded, and then buried under the gallows, and their heads set upon poles on the top of Westminster-hall.

diately, and said he used not to give answer to such frivolous demands, and that he wondered Sir Thomas would be so uncivil as to come so near the town before he had acquainted them with it: and that there might be more virtue in his actions than that paper sent him: So confident he seemed to be with the strength he had in the town, he could well enough keep it, wherein were about 2000 men, namely, 1500 foot and 500 horse and dragoons, and two pieces of cannon: This summons being thus refused, we approached nearer the South-west side of the town with our forces, and being in view thereof with our banners displayed (being about thirty six colours) I sent another trumpeter to Sir William Saville, who shortly after by a trumpeter, assured us that we should get nothing but by fight, whereupon we prepared for an assault, and instantly drew out of our companies five colours of our most expert soldiers, and appointed them to march down with Captains Forbes, Briggs, Lee, Frank, and Palmer, with his dragoons on foot, towards the water along the trenches, near to and above which, about 100 musketeers were drawn out of the town on a hill, and about one o'clock in the afternoon, they gave fire from the inside of their works upon our musketeers, who approached nearer, shrouded themselves under a hill and let fly at the centry, with no loss at all on either side, they within the trenches shooting too high, and the other at the trenches,



and thus the fight began between them most fiercely.

Every commander in their several stations gave charges and commands, and riding from place to place encouraged their men to fall resolutely, who being mightily emboldened by their valiant leaders, performed the same with admirable courage; and although most of them were but unexperienced fresh water-men, taken up about Bradford and Halifax upon the Saturday before, yet they came on most resolutely and violently, especially the musketeers under Sir William Fairfax, commander of the foot, who, most courageously at the head of his regiment and in the face of the enemy, stormed the town most furiously, whereupon began very hot service: Capt. Forbes behaved himself most valiantly about the enemy's trenches and out-works, from whence they played very sharply against our men, but were as hotly answered by us with admirable courage and fearless resolution, under the conduct of this noble Captain; inso-much that notwithstanding the enemy's endeavours to oppose us, together with the assistance of their cannon, which were often discharged upon our men, yet they soon killed their cannoneers, and after a furious fight of two hours, our men most bravely beat them quite from their works: When bullets flew about our men's ears as thick as hail, yet myself, Sir William Fairfax, and Sir Henry Fowles on one side, and the resolute Capt. Forbes

with his brave company on the other side, made way into the town most furiously sword in hand, and violent force of arms, being closely followed by the dauntless club-men, and so with much difficulty got possession thereof within the space of two hours, wherein were found two brass cannon, and good store of arms and ammunition, which we presently seized; we took also four colours, and 500 prisoners, among whom were six commanders, most of the rest were common soldiers, who, upon taking an oath never to fight in this cause against the King and Parliament, were set at liberty, and suffered to depart, but unarmed. There were not above forty slain, whereof ten or twelve at the most on our side, the rest on theirs: Serjeant-major Beaumont, in his flight endeavouring to cross the river to save his life, lost it by being drowned therein; and Sir William Saville, their General, in his flight also crossing the same river, hardly escaped the same fate.

“The consequence of this action was of great importance; for those who fled from Leeds to Wakefield, and quitting that garrison also, gave my Lord of Newcastle such an alarm at Pontefract, that he drew all his army again to York, leaving once more a free intercourse, which he had so long time cut off, between my father and us.

“We being at Leeds, it was thought fit to possess some other place; wherefore I was sent to

B

Bradford with seven or eight hundred foot, and three troops of horse. These two towns were all the garrisons we had ; and at Wakefield, six miles off, lay three thousand of the enemy, but they did not much disturb us, and we were busied about releasing prisoners, whose wives and children were still importunate for their release, which was as earnestly endeavoured by us, but no conditions would be accepted ; so as their continual cries, tears, and importunities, compelled us to think of some way to redeem these men ; and we thought of attempting Wakefield. Our intelligence was that the enemy had not above eight or nine hundred men in the town ; I acquainted my father with our design, who approved of it, and sent some men from Leeds, so that we were able to draw out eleven hundred horse and foot.

“ Upon Whitsunday, early in the morning, we came before the town, but they had notice of our coming, and had manned all their works, and set about five hundred musketeers to line the hedges without the town, which made us now doubt our intelligence, but it was too late.

“ After a little consultation we advanced and soon beat them back into the town, which we stormed at three places ; and after an hour's dispute, the foot forced open a barricado, where I entered with my own troop, Colonel Alured and Captain Bright followed with theirs : The street we entered was full of their foot, we charged them

through, and routed them, leaving them to the foot that followed close behind us: And presently we were charged again by horse led on by General Goring, where, after a hot encounter, some were slain, and himself taken prisoner by Colonel Alured.

“ All our men being got into the town, the streets were cleared, and many prisoners taken; but the horns got off almost entirely.”

In the year 1645, this town was ravaged by a dreadful plague which in a few months swept away above 1300 persons, then thought to be very considerable in proportion to the number of inhabitants; the neighbouring country is said to have been so much alarmed, and the emigration from the town so great during this dreadful visitation, that the streets in many places were grown over with grass, and the air so much infected, that birds were seen to drop down dead in their flight over the town.

Leeds is an ancient, though not a parliamentary Borough. It has had four Charters, the first by Charles I. in 1626; the second by Charles II. in 1661; the third by James II. in 1684; the last by William and Mary, in 1689. But the town is at present governed under the second.

The next event of public notice that occurred in the town was in the year 1745, when the unfor-

fortunate Prince Charles Edward attempted by the assistance of a few Highlanders to take possession of the Crown of his Ancestors. The Magistrates being informed in a letter from one of the Secretaries of State, that a scheme existed to invade these kingdoms by the eldest son of the Pretender, they assured his Majesty of their fidelity in a loyal address, and upon information of his being landed in the North, they prepared for the defence and security of the town. The arrival of the news of the success of the Rebel army, and his advancing into England, panic struck the people, and the minds of all were filled with perplexity and consternation.

The most considerable part of the inhabitants fled from the town, and sought a more secure retreat; whilst those that remained concealed their most valuable articles in the best possible manner. The confusion which prevailed at this period, still remains in the memory of many now living.

The town however did not suffer from the Pretender's army, their march being directed towards Manchester, where they established their head quarters.

The defeat of the Prince's forces shortly after, which blasted all his hopes, and put an end to all his former triumphs, dispelled the gloomy prospect, and the town sunk again into its former tranquillity.

In June, 1753, a remarkable riot, (fatal to several of the inhabitants as well as rioters) took place in Leeds. Much discontent having arose, and considerable opposition being likewise made to the turnpike act—a large body of rioters assembled, and pulled up several of the turnpike bars; and on the 25th of June, a message being sent to Edwin Lascelles, Esq. that the rioters concerned in cutting down the turnpikes, intended to demolish the turnpike-bar, at Harewood-Bridge, and pull down his house; he accordingly prepared for their arrival. In the afternoon, about three hundred armed with swords and clubs appeared. Mr. Lascelles resolved to defend the bar, armed about three hundred of his tenants and workmen, and marched himself on foot at the head of them to meet the rioters; after some skirmishes, in which several were wounded on both sides, he took about thirty prisoners, of whom ten were committed to York castle the next day.

The dragoons which were come from York to assist in suppressing the rioters, were divided into several parties to attend on the several turnpikes round about the town in support of the Collectors.

On the Saturday following, a carter going through Beeston turnpike refused to pay the toll, whereupon he was seized by the soldiers, in or-

der to be carried before the Trustees of the turnpike, at the King's Arms Inn, Briggate, but was rescued before he got thither.

After this the mob gave out, that before ten o'clock that night they would rescue three other prisoners, who had been apprehended the night before; accordingly between seven and eight o'clock, a body of about five hundred men assembled in Briggate, when the proclamation against rioters was read; but this not being regarded, a person was sent to desire all persons to shut up their shops, and keep their houses; after which the officers sent their servants with the like caution; but the mob continuing to break the windows and the shutters of the King's Arms Inn, and tearing up the stones of the pavement to throw at the soldiers, and having knocked down the centinel upon guard there, the drum beat to arms, and the officers gave orders to the soldiers, about twenty to fire, which was done with powder, but this no way intimidating the mob, they fired with ball, by which eight were killed, and almost fifty wounded, many of which died soon afterwards.

From this period the History of Leeds amounts to nothing more than an account of the various edifices, which have been reared in the town, of which will be given a concise description. Every year has witnessed an increase of buildings having started into existence,

with a rapidity which constantly afford matter for astonishment in the minds of occasional visitors. Within the last thirty years the town has increased to more than double its number of inhabitants, and it is annually augmenting in its dimensions, as well as improving in the quality of its buildings.



## **PUBLIC BUILDINGS.**

The public structures may be ranked under four classes, according to the several purposes for which they have been raised, namely, for religious worship, for charitable uses, for business, and for pleasure.

### **CHURCHES.**

The town contains five Churches of the established religion; a Scotch Church; three Independent Chapels; a Quaker's Meeting House; two Presbyterian Chapels; three Methodist Chapels; a Baptist Meeting; a Roman Catholic Chapel; and an Inghamite Chapel.

### **PARISH CHURCH.**

This truly venerable pile, commonly called St. Peter's, or the Old Church; from being first erected, is of very ancient date, and an extensive building.

It is more than probable that there was a church here during the Saxon heptarchy, when the Kings of Northumberland had their palace here; the doomsday book and other ancient records mention this Church during the reign of William the Conqueror. It is built after the

manner of a Cathedral, with a large cross aisle, and a steeple or tower in the middle of it. The dimensions of the Church are—length 165 feet, breadth 97, height of the nave of the Church 51, and of the steeple 96 feet.

The steeple is a square tower, with a peal of ten musical bells, and chimes that play a different tune every day in the week at the hours of four, six, eight, and twelve. The choir or chancel is uncommonly spacious, measuring about 59 by 88 feet.

The roof of the Church is supported by three rows of gothic pillars. In the nave of the Church are four aisles, which run from the chancel to the west end, where is the font used for the ordinance of baptism, it is of stone, gilt and painted.

The pews are chiefly of oak, and the galleries are curiously carved with a variety of figures; directly opposite the pulpit are the Town's arms betwixt two gilt maces, in relievo, around which are inscribed :

*Sigillum de Burgi Leedes, 1660.*

At the end of the middle aisle the steeple is founded on four large pillars and arches. The North cross aisle is called the Queen's, the South seems to have been the Chapel of St. Catharine, where the place for holy-water is yet to be seen. At the East end were three altars, besides the

high altar, but how many on the North and South cannot now be distinctly ascertained; nor which were the particular chancels of St. Mary, Trinity, and Rockley, which are mentioned in ancient writings. But Jesu Guild seems to have been at the South East angle, by the ancient characters I. H. S. being cut in the wood work of the roof. There also remains our Saviour's head crowned with thorns. The North East chancel seems to have been devoted to what was called our 'Lady's Service,' as we may gather from the large letters under a crown wrought in stone work in the wall, and a female crowned head in the window.

In the high choir is the communion table, above which are the commandments, creed, &c. and a most excellent painting of the Last Supper.

Here is also a good organ\*, built by Mr. Henry Price, about the year 1717, finished in a gothic stile; it has lately undergone considerable alterations, and may now be ranked amongst the first in the county.

On each side of the organ are placed the Colours of the late Gentlemen Volunteers, which were wrought and presented to the corps by Miss Craig, now Mrs. Spencer; and were deposited

\* The first mention of organs in Europe, is of one which Constantine Craponimus, Emperor of the East, sent to Pepin King of France, about the year 757.

in this place on the public Thanksgiving-day for Peace, June 1, 1802.

In the choir are three tables of donations, made by various persons in the town and neighbourhood, for pious and charitable uses from the year 1545 to 1796.

The Church is not sufficiently sequestered; and from the present, perhaps unavoidable thoroughfares in almost every direction through the Church yard, it but ill accords with the primitive intention of—

‘ The Church yard’s lonely mound

‘ Where melancholy in still silence reigns.’

A considerable portion of the lower part of this Church is set apart for the public; and as in most country Churches, there are allotments for the Blue Coat scholars. The public seats are in general well filled, with decent and respectable persons; devotion is better assisted than where the whole is a glare of dress and fashion; it induces a due sense of humility, and properly reminds us of the indistinction that is soon to take place in the state for which we are preparing.

There is in this Church a great variety of elegant Monuments of ancient and modern sculpture; the following are amongst the number that will, no doubt, engage much of the stranger’s particular attention :

Sacred  
To the Memory of  
**CHARLES HENRY NEVILLE,**  
Lieutenant in the Queen's, or Second  
Regiment of Foot;  
Who,  
Being on the Marine Duty on Board  
**Carl Howe's Ship,**  
After behaving in a most brave and gallant manner  
In the Engagement which took place  
Between the English and French Fleets,  
For three days,  
Was killed by a Grape shot, June the 1st, 1794,  
Aged 19 Years.

Ye sons of peace, who blest  
With all the dear delights of social life,  
Behold this Tablet,  
Which affection reared,  
To the lov'd memory of the young, the brave;  
Whose early bloom, smote by the ruthless hand of  
WAR,  
Fell, admired, lamented.  
Oh! give one pitying tear,  
In grateful memory of the generous Youth,  
Who dauntless met the dreadful battle's rage,  
And nobly bled,  
That you might live secure.

To the Memory  
OF  
JOHN PATE NEVILLE,  
Lieut. in the Third Regiment of Foot Guards,  
Who was  
**Wounded in Holland,**  
In an Engagement against the French,  
Sept. 19, of which wound he died  
October 10, 1799.

*Also,*

To the Memory  
OF  
BROWNLOW PATE NEVILLE,  
Lieut. in the Third Regiment of Foot Guards,  
Who was likewise  
**Wounded in Holland,**  
Sept. 10, and died Sept. 16, 1799,  
Aged 23 Years.

They were the brothers of Charles Henry  
Neville, who was killed on Earl Howe's ship,  
June 1st, 1794, and the sons of John Pate Neville,  
Esq. of Badsworth, in the county of York.

In Memory of  
**SAMUEL PREDAM**, of this Town,  
 Late  
 Lieut. of His Majesty's 54th Regiment of Foot.

**This Monument**

Is erected by his most affectionate and disconsolate  
 MOTHER on the loss of her only SON.

In the memorable Expedition to Egypt  
 He bore a distinguished part,  
 And displayed on all Occasions,  
 The Active Zeal,  
 The Intrepid Gallantry,  
 And the invincible Spirit and Courage  
 Of a true British Officer.

He was shot through the Body, the 25th of Aug.  
 1801, near the Gates of ALEXANDRIA.

But like the Immortal Abercrombie,  
 He refus'd to quit his Post  
 So long as he could stand.  
 His death, which ensued the 13th Oct. following,  
 At the Age of Twenty eight Years,  
 To his friends was most affecting,  
 To himself it was glorious  
 As his Life had been honourable.

THIS TABLET

Sacred to the Memory of

THOMAS CLOSE, Esq.

Late Adjutant of the Corps

of

*Leeds Gentlemen Volunteer Infantry,*

Commanded by

**Lieut. Col. Lloyd,**

Was erected by the

Non-commissioned Officers,

Of that Corps

Who REGRETTING the OCCASION,

Are yet ANXIOUS to pay

This last TRIBUTE

of

RESPECT, GRATITUDE AND ESTEEM,

To their much lamented Friend,

And

*Brother Soldier.*

He died Jan. 10, 1796, aged 34 years.



## A LIST OF VICARS.

- 1242, Alanus de Shirburn.  
 Sep. 2, 1250, Johannes de Feversham.  
 Jan. 2, 1281, Galfridres de Sponden.  
 Nov. 8, 1316, Gilbertus Gaudibus.  
 Mar. 15, 1320, Alan de Berewick.  
 William Brunby.  
 Mar. 1, 1392, W. Mirfield.  
 June 12, 1394, Johannes Snagtall.  
 Nov. 29, 1408, Rob. Paselow.  
 Rob. Newton.  
 Mar. 12, 1418, Wm. Saxton.  
 May 20, 1424, Johannes Herbert.  
 Jacobus Bagully.  
 Mar. 8, 1430, Tho. Clarel.  
 Aug. 17, 1470, Wm. Evre.  
 Mar. 21, 1482, Johannes dei gratiæ Rossensis  
 Episcopus.  
 Sep. 29, 1499, Martomis Collimis. Decr. Dr.  
 Jan. 27, 1500, Rob. Wranwast, B. A.  
 Aug. 9, 1508, Wm. Evre:  
 Johannes Thomson.  
 Johannes Thornton.  
 Oct. 26, 1556, Chr. Bradley.  
 Aug. 22, 1559, Alex. Fascet,  
 Dec. 18, 1590, Rob. Cooke.  
 Jan. 17, 1614, { Alex. Cooke, Archiep. per laps;  
 Dec. 19, 1615, }  
 July 4, 1632, Henric Robinson.  
 Apr. 1646, Peter Saxton.  
 1652, Wm. Styles.  
 May 21, 1661, Johannes Lake, D. D.  
 Nov. 5, 1663, Marma. Cooke, D. D.  
 Aug. 2, 1677, Johannes Milner.  
 Aug. 1690, Johannes Killingbeck.  
 Mar. 6, 1715, Josephus Cookson, M. A.  
 1746, Samuel Kirshaw, D. D.  
 1786, Peter Haddon, M. A.

The living is in the gift of twenty four Trustees; who, previous to a presentation, are required to complete their number by the votes of a majority of the survivors. The profits of the living arise chiefly from tythes and Easter dues, and is said to amount to about Eight Hundred Pounds per ann. they would certainly be more if the dues were rigorously exacted.

### St. JOHN'S CHURCH.

This was the next built Church, and finished in 1634, at the expence of John Harrison, Esq. It is a Curacy in the patronage of the Mayor, the Vicar, and three senior Aldermen: the present annual value is 300l. This edifice is situated at the North end of the town, and is built in the gothic style of architecture; but it is much to be regretted, that the stone of which this Church is built has proved so perishable in its nature.

The pews are chiefly of oak, after the manner of the Parish Church; the roof is supported by a row of gothic pillars, adorned with a number of curious figures; part of the bottom is laudably appropriated to the public. The Church-yard is a public burial ground, which is now nearly covered with tomb-stones, affording an affecting lesson of mortality.

Near the altar is a fine painting of the Founder, and on an elevated tomb-stone, the following Inscription composed by Dr. Lake, then Vicar of Leeds, afterwards Bishop of Chichester:

Here resteth the Body of  
**Mr. JOHN HARRISON,**  
 The wonder of his own, and the pattern of  
 Succeeding ages ;  
 Eminent for Piety, Prudence, Loyalty, Charity;  
 Who (besides other eminent works of a pious  
**Opnificence,**  
 And many great instances of an excellent virtue)  
 Founded an HOSPITAL, for relief of Indigent  
 Persons, of good conversation and  
 formerly Industrious.  
 Built the FREE SCHOOL of this Town, for the  
 Encouragement of Learning :  
 Together with a Chapel,—this Church,  
 (Which most may Envy)  
 For the Exercise of Religion,  
 And endowed it with Eighty Pounds per ann.  
 Also, That he might do good in all his Capacities,  
 He erected a stately Cross, for the Convenience  
 Of the Markets.  
 And, having given these pledges of a joyful  
 Resurrection,  
 Fell asleep, Oct. 29, A. D. 1656,  
 Etatis Suæ 77.

marmore quid cælas, sculptor? Quid inane Sepulchrum?  
 Exegit monumentum ære perennius.  
 Templum pro tumulo, sacri Præconia verbi  
 Divinaque Preces sunt Epitaphium.  
 Fingere si quid vis, Phœnicem finge suorum,  
 Jam prolem Cinerum, morte superantem.

Rev. W. Sheepshanks, A. M. Minister.  
 Rev. Mr. Flint, Curate.

## TRINITY CHURCH.

This is a very elegant structure, and will be found as well finished within as it is without, and was erected about the year 1721. In its confined situation it cannot be advantageously viewed in any direction. Its beautiful and lofty spire, however, has a pleasing effect from every part of the town and neighbourhood where it can be seen. The urns upon the parapets of the Church are highly ornamental. The galleries are supported, by fourteen corinthian pillars, with exquisite mouldings and reliefs. The altar piece is most elegant and richly ornamented. Whether the stranger takes an external or internal survey, the eye is struck with delight, and he pronounces the whole the work of a master. Much attention is paid to the comfort of the congregation; and stoves are employed during the winter to keep up a proper temperature.

It has been frequently reflected upon as being too dark. The reflections are certainly ill founded—there is sufficient light; more would have created an uncomfortable glare, not at all adapted to the solemnity of the place. It presents a happy medium between the dark and melancholy cloister, and the extreme lightness of some modern places of Worship. On the lower part of a neat monument, is a particular enumeration of the benevolent donations of the Rev. H. Robinson

M. A. which amount collectively to the sum of 5,495l.—Rev. J. Sheepshanks, M. A. Minister.—Income 300l.

### St. PAUL'S CHURCH.

This is a very elegant and stately fabric, built by the present Minister; the ground was the gift of Dr. Wilson, Lord Bishop of Bristol. Divine service was performed in it for the first time on Christmas-day, 1794. The whole of the building can no where perhaps be excelled in simple elegance. Plain beauty unites with strength. It is built in the modern style of architecture, with an ornamental doom at the West end, and does honor to the age in which it was reared. The slender iron pillars that support the galleries, afford considerable accommodation. The pulpit, reading-desk, and Clerk's pew are beautiful pieces of workmanship; behind these, at a proper elevation, is a powerful toned organ, which was erected by subscription in the year 1800. There are two stoves, which together with the doors that shut up the aisles, make attendance on public worship very comfortable during the winter season.

The Church is completely vaulted for the purpose of a cemetery, as it has no burial ground. The living after two presentations is to be in the gift of the Vicar. The Rev. M. Atkinson, Minister.—Rev. W. Foster, Curate.

Since this Church was opened, a number of handsome houses have been erected near it, which form a very genteel end of the town.

### St. JAMES'S CHURCH.

This is a large octagonal building, opened for divine worship, in 1794. When first erected, it had a noble dome in the centre of the roof, but which has since been taken down, being judged too heavy for the building. The worship was originally conducted on the Countess of Huntingdon's plan, by the original Proprietors, by whom it was named 'Zion Chapel.' It was afterwards purchased by the Rev. Mr Griffin, a Clergyman of the establishment, and who obtained a licence to use it for the service of the established Church for three years; during this interval, it was disposed of to the Rev. Mr. King, its present Minister, and was soon after duly consecrated by the Archbishop of this province.

It may be proper to remark, that the solemnization of the rites of marriage is the exclusive privilege of the Parish Church.

Having thus given an account of the buildings, appropriated to divine worship, according to the ritual of the established religion; the Chapels of the various denominations of Dissenters next claim our attention, and we shall class each sect together.

## ALBION CHAPEL\*.

This building was opened for the celebration of religious service in 1796, at which time the ritual of the Church of England was used. It is extremely commodious, the form and dimensions being well adapted for a numerous auditory.

The first Minister who officiated in this Chapel, was the Rev. J. Price, who is now Pastor of a Congregation at Blackburn. The Chapel was afterwards purchased of the Proprietor, for the purpose of being conducted on the plan of a Scotch Church, and was re-opened by the Rev. R. Jack, of Manchester, Jan. 2, 1802, under the inspection of the Associate Presbytery of Edinburgh.

The situation of the Chapel is much retired, which renders it very eligible for the exercises of devout worship, and prevents that annoyance which is ever unpleasant on such occasions. There is also a convenient burial Ground. During the last year considerable alterations and improvements were made.

The Rev. P. Thomson was admitted Pastor of this Congregation, April 5, 1804; and it appears that the success of his Ministry has equalled the most sanguine expectations.

\* Now generally called the Scotch Church.

### MILL-HILL CHAPEL.

It is said, that this was the first Dissenting Meeting House in the North of England erected after the general indulgence. It was built in 1672, and is occupied by the Unitarians. The Chapel is incrustated over with grey plaister, and is shaded by large trees, which gives it a retired appearance, and well accords with the solemnities of public worship. It has an extensive burial ground, in which is a Sunday School, supported by the members of this Chapel.

The Congregation though not numerous, can boast as much in the respectability of the characters which compose it, as any in the town. This society use a printed Form of Prayer and Liturgy.

The celebrated Dr. Priestley presided here for a number of years. The Rev. W. Wood, F. L. S. is the present Minister. The appellation Presbyterian, which is given to this body of Dissenters, is improperly applied, as they have not any attachment to the Scotch mode of Church government, any more than to episcopacy in England; the term has occasioned many wrong notions, and should therefore be rectified. English Presbyterians as they are called, adopt the same mode of Church government with the Independents. Their chief difference from them is, that they are much less attached to Calvinism, and consequently admit a greater latitude of religious sentiment.



**CALL-LANE CHAPEL.**

This structure was built in the year 1691, but is very disadvantageously situated in a very narrow street.

The audience attached to this Chapel is composed of persons of the first respectability, chiefly the descendants of the ancient Independents whose principles of Church government they have adopted, but without any tincture of Calvinism.

The Rev. J. Bowden, is the present Minister.

**WHITE CHAPEL.**

This was built in the year 1754, by the Calvinist Independents; it is of brick and stone, situated in a very unpleasant and confined part. The Rev. J. Edwards was the first Minister, who presided over a very numerous Congregation, and was succeeded by the Rev. E. Parsons, who continued until Salem Chapel was erected. There is nothing particular in the building; and at present the Congregation have no settled Minister, the pastoral charge having been lately resigned by the Rev. G. Wilson.

**SALEM CHAPEL**

Is a large handsome stone building, and was finished about 1791. The pews are very conveniently disposed, and are capable of seating near one thousand persons. It is so situated that it cannot be viewed to advantage at a distance, nor

is it sufficiently retired for devotion. In other respects it is exceedingly commodious.

The Rev. Edward Parsons is the Minister of this Congregation, and is very well attended.

#### BETHEL CHAPEL,

In St. George's Street, was built by a Mr. Thoresby, formerly a dissentient of the Methodist persuasion, but is now occupied by the Independents. It is a small brick building, and has not much to recommend it to the notice of the stranger.

The Congregation though small, provide liberally for their Minister, the Rev. Mr. Farmer.

#### BAPTIST CHAPEL,

Near St. Peter's Square, is a plain modern stone building, neatly fitted up for religious service. A well-toned organ, very rare in Dissenting places of worship, adds to the appearance of the Chapel, as well as contributes to the swell of devotional praise. In the middle of the lower part is a baptistry, for the immersion of those who are admitted members of the Church. This is now the most common way of administering this ordinance among the Baptists, either with the attendance of friends, or in the presence of the Congregation; and it must be allowed to be significant in its nature, and impressive in its tendency. The Rev. T. Langdon, Minister.

### QUAKER'S MEETING HOUSE.

There was an old Meeting House built here in the year 1699, which having fallen into decay, was pulled down and the present House erected on its scite in 1788. Like the respectable members of the society who assemble here for divine worship, it is plain, but substantial. There is a school over the West end. It appears from some tomb stone inscriptions, that the place on which the House now stands was used for a burial place some time (at least thirty years) before the old House was built.

The Friends in ancient times used to place monumental inscriptions over their dead, but this is now generally disused as being according to their tenets too much favouring of useless ostentation. Their quarterly Meeting is held in this town the first week in April; they likewise hold Meetings for discipline monthly.

### METHODIST CHAPEL.

[This is an exceeding large and extensive building, situated near St. Peter's Square, founded by the followers of Mr. Wesley, in 1771, but has since undergone many alterations; it affords room for a very numerous audience, but has nothing particularly attractive in its ornaments. The pulpit like the rest of the wainscoting, is painted, and capable of holding seven or eight Ministers.

At the first attempt to introduce Methodism into the town, the founders met with great opposition, but by their unwearied efforts they at length succeeded, and are now become as numerous here as in any part of the kingdom.

### NEW METHODIST CHAPEL

In Albion Street, belongs to the Methodists. It is a beautiful structure, and more elegant than any other Dissenting place of worship in the town; it was completed in 1802. Behind the pulpit is a beautiful and ornamented recess, for the accommodation of the singers.

This Chapel is much frequented, even by those who have no partiality for the tenets of the sect, on account of the pleasant vocal music. In general it overflows with auditors.

### EBENEZER CHAPEL.

It is a small building, and formerly belonged to the Baptists. The gallery encompasses it on four sides, and the whole is capable of holding about five hundred persons, and has the advantage of a small burying ground attached to it. The Rev. W. Price was the first Minister, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Williams, who continued till it was sold to the present possessors.

The form of worship is the same as the Methodists, from which connexion this Congregation are seceders, principally on differences as to Church government.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.

This is a beautiful building founded about the year 1792; within it is adorned with columns and pilasters of the composite order. The capitals are enriched with elegant foliage, and have a very interesting appearance.

Over the entrance is placed a small organ, which is more powerful than fine toned, but has a good effect in chorusses and full pieces. The pulpit is peculiarly light and elegant; at the East end is a very excellent picture, designed and painted by Williams: the subject is the descent from the cross; the figures are natural and striking, and will no doubt, with the rest of the various ceremonies of this Church, engage much of the stranger's attention. The Priest is the Rev, A. Underhill.

### INGHAMITE CHAPEL,

In Duke Street, is exceeding small, and was built by the followers of Mr. Ingham. Divine service was formerly performed twice on the Sabbath, but not meeting with sufficient encouragement, it is now disused.

## A LIST

OF ALL

## THE CHURCHES AND CHAPELS,

*With the Names of the Ministers, and Times of Worship.*

St. Peter's Church,	-	f	-	-	P. Haddon	
— — —	-	-	a	-	M. Atkinson	
St. John's Church,	-	f	-	-	W. Sheepshanks	
— — —	-	-	a	-	W. Flint	
Trinity Church,	-	-	f	a	J. Sheepshanks	
St. Paul's Church,	-	f	-	-	M. Atkinson	
— — —	-	-	a	-	W. Foster	
St. James's Church,	-	f	a	-	J. King	
Albion Chapel,	-	-	f	a	e	P. Thomson
Mill Hill Chapel,	-	f	a	-	W. Wood	
Call-Lane Chapel,	-	f	a	-	J. Bowden	
White Chapel,	-	-	f	a	-	Unsettled
Salem Chapel,	-	-	f	a	-	E. Parsons
Bethel Chapel,	-	-	f	a	e	— Farmer
Baptist Chapel,	-	-	f	a	-	T. Langdon
Quaker's Meeting,	-	f	a	-		
Methodist Chapel,	m	-	-	e	Various	
New Methodist Chapel	f	a	e	Various		
Ebenezer Chapel,	-	f	a	e	Various	
Roman Catholic Chap.	f	a	-	A. Underhill		
Inghamite Chapel,	—	—	—	—		

## WEEKLY LECTURES.

<i>Time.</i>	<i>Place.</i>	<i>Preachers.</i>
Mon. Even.	Ebenezer Chapel, -	Various
Mon. Even.	Methodist Old Chapel, -	Various
Tues. Morn.	- do - - do -	do
Wed. Even.	Bethel Chapel, - -	— Farmer
— —	Baptist Chapel - -	T. Langdon
— —	Albion Chapel - -	P. Thomson
— —	Methodist Old Chapel, -	Various
Thur. Morn.	do - - do -	do
— Even.	do New do -	do
— —	White Chapel, - -	Unsettled
— —	Ebenezer Chapel -	Various
Frid. Even.	St. Paul's Church, -	W. Foster
— —	Salem Chapel, - -	E. Parsons

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Prayers at the Parish Church three times every day, and a Lecture appointed by Lady Elizabeth Hastings the last Wednesday in the month. Prayers at St. John's Church, twice every day. At Trinity likewise on the forenoon of Wednesday and Friday. Also a meeting of the Friends on Thursday forenoon.

The Lectures generally commence about seven o'clock in the evening.

## CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

From the description of the edifices appropriated to the exercise of religious worship, the transition is natural to those devoted to its best fruit—Charity. And it is with pleasure that we can add, that the public charities of this town are numerous, well imagined, and diligently, as well as faithfully executed, and contribute to alleviate in a very considerable degree the misery and casual distress, to which the poor of large manufacturing towns are peculiarly exposed. Of these Institutions the first in rank as well as in utility is

### THE GENERAL INFIRMARY.

This is a very handsome and spacious edifice, situated in a large and pleasant Square, at the West end of the town. It is surrounded with a large court and garden, and is accommodated with every requisite out-building. The first stone of this building was laid by Edwin Lascelles, Esq. (afterwards Lord Harewood) in the year 1768, and it was opened for the reception of Patients, March 5th, 1771.

This charitable Institution possesses no permanent funds, and was originally built as it is still supported by Benefactions or annual Subscriptions of individuals. Two large wings have been added to the building at different times,



and recently the body of the building has been raised to the same height with the wings. This Institution is, as its name imports, a General Infirmary, to which every proper object, whatever be his place of residence, has an equal claim, provided he is recommended by a Subscriber ; but in case of accidents or cases not admitting of delay, this Recommendation is dispensed with. The only diseases excluded from the benefit of this institution are the venereal disease and infectious fevers, for the relief of the latter the House of Recovery has been erected.

Every person who has contributed at one payment the sum of Twenty Guineas, or who subscribes annually the sum of Two Guineas, are Trustees of the Infirmary, and have an equal vote in the management of its concerns, and have a power of recommending one in and two out patients. A weekly board is held every Friday at the Infirmary, who transact the common routine of business, and superintend the conduct of the officers of the Institution, of which board every Trustee who chuses to attend is a member. A quarterly board, and an annual meeting of the Subscribers or Trustees are also regularly held. The Medical establishment consists of three Physicians ; three Surgeons ; and an Apothecary, who resides in the house. The other officers of the Institution are, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and

the Matron; together with proper nurses and servants.

The following is a list of the present Officers:

Dr. Walker,	}	Physicians.
Dr. Hird,		
Dr. Thorp,		
Mr. Hey, F. R. S.	}	Surgeons.
Mr. Logan,		
Mr. Chorley,		
Mr. Hare, Apothecary. Mrs. Wilkinson, Matron.		
W. Cookson, Esq. Treasurer.		
Mr. Matthew Talbot, Secretary.		

The philanthropic Howard who visited this place in 1788, pronounces the following eulogium upon it:

‘ This is one of the best Hospitals in the kingdom. In the wards, which are fifteen feet eight inches high, there is great attention to cleanliness, and six circular apertures, or ventilators open into a passage five feet and a half wide. Many here are cured of compound fractures, who would lose their limbs in the unventilated and offensive wards of some Hospitals.’

The building is of brick, and is what such places ought to be—plain, handsome and substantial, and it conveys an idea of ample provision for the unfortunate, and of a durability which promises to the rising generation, an asylum, if they should unfortunately want one, when the

present race of sufferers are at rest, and their benefactors shall have gone to 'that country from whose bourn no traveller 'ere returns.'

The length of the building is 150 feet, width 38. The court is 186 feet by 30. The back court with the offices and gardens 186 feet by 120.

This excellent Charity has been supported by liberal and increasing Subscriptions, ever since its commencement. The Church service is read in the Chapel by a Clergyman of the established religion.

### THE HOUSE OF RECOVERY

Is situated in Vicar-Lane, opposite an open field belonging the vicarage, and was founded in the year 1802, by public subscription. It is as large and extensive, as its design is useful and benevolent. Like the Infirmary, to which this may be deemed an appendage; it is a substantial and well built edifice, ventilated in the best possible manner, and every precaution is taken to prevent the spread of infection. The objects of the institution are, first, to prevent the spread of contagious fevers, by removing into well ventilated apartments every poor person on the first appearance of an infectious fever, by which separation the rest of the family and neighbourhood will probably be preserved from its ravages; and generally to effect the recovery of those who might

otherwise fall victims to the disease; as the persons who are generally first attacked by infectious fevers are those who inhabit damp, noisome, and often crowded and dirty cellars or garrets within close alleys, and who by being removed into clean and well aired apartments, with every thing at hand to assist nature in repelling the disorder, have every prospect of being recovered. Perhaps the following extracts from the rules of the house will be acceptable in this place :


‘ The House of Recovery shall be appropriated to the reception of poor persons labouring under infectious fevers.

‘ All persons labouring under infectious fevers who are unable to provide medicines, or proper accommodations for themselves, and residing within the following districts, viz. the townships of Leeds, Hunslet, Holbeck, Headingley, Chapel-town, and Potternewton, are admissible.

‘ Domestic servants labouring under infectious fevers may be admitted, upon payment of a weekly sum of not more than one guinea, at the discretion of a monthly board.

‘ All patients dismissed from the House of Recovery, shall be enjoined to attend in person or by their friends, at the monthly board next after their dismissal.

‘ Patients shall be admitted and discharged at all times, at the discretion of the physicians, each of whom shall in rotation have the care of the



patients admitted during his week, and every patient shall remain under the care of the same physician, until discharged.

‘The surgeons shall give their assistance when requested by their respective physicians.

‘A medical inspector shall be chosen by a general board, who shall also appoint his salary. His office shall be to recommend and personally see to the execution of such means of preventing the spreading of infection in the families, whence any sick person has been admitted into the House of Recovery, as the physicians of the charity shall direct.

‘Such rewards shall be given to the families who observe the instructions recommended to them, as the physicians shall judge proper, not exceeding the sum of ten shillings to one family.

‘The apothecary shall attend the House daily, shall compound the medicines prescribed, or cause them to be compounded under his direction, and shall give notice of any circumstance occurring in the cases of the patients, which may require the immediate attention of the physicians, or surgeons; he shall also in the absence of the physicians, receive patients whose cases do not admit of delay.’

The medical establishment of this invaluable Institution consists of the following gentlemen, some of whom attend every Thursday, at the Board Room, to inoculate gratis with the cow-pox,

the children of such poor persons as apply for that purpose.

Dr. Thorpe,	}	Physicians.
Dr. Hird,		
Dr. Baynes,		

Mr. Logan,	}	Surgeons.
Mr. Chorley,		
Mr. W. Hey, Jun.		

Mr. Teal, Apothecary.

Mr. Moxon, Inspector.

Mr. R. Clark, Secretary.

This charity is supported by annual Subscriptions, aided by the Collections made at the different places of public worship.

### STRANGER'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

This charity has no public building devoted to its service; the committee by whom its affairs are managed, meet in an obscure room near the Old Methodist Chapel. This institution owes its rise to the benevolent exertions of the Methodists, by whom it was for some years principally supported: at present, the contributors to its funds embrace every diversity of religious faith; and in the distribution of its assistance, the society takes no notice of the distinctions which divide the religious world.

The name by which this charity is known, sufficiently points out its peculiar design. The

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friendless and the strangers who are sinking under the pressure of poverty and disease, are sought out and relieved, and many who must have perished for want of prompt assistance, have by the efficacious aid and exertions of the managers of this Institution been restored to comfort and to usefulness ; and

‘ The blessings of many that were ready to perish have come upon them :’

The annual funds of this society, which arise from benefactions and small annual subscriptions, average about 200*l.* per ann. But they have occasionally solicited from the public, extraordinary contributions, which have been expended in providing blankets for the necessitous poor.

### THE FREE SCHOOL.

In the place where the pinfold now stands, the Free Grammar School was originally situated, until it was removed by the celebrated Mr. Harrison, from so inconvenient a place to a pleasant field of his own, which he surrounded by a substantial stone wall, within which he built the present fabric of the school, and to which Godfrey Lawson, Esq. added a new apartment in 1692. In the higher room is a library ; in one of the windows the founder’s arms are curiously painted, and likewise the inscription “ *ARS GRAMMATICA.*” The benefactions are registered on a parchment kept for the purpose.

The following inscription was placed on the angle where the school and library meet, by the Rev. Edward Clarke, chief master of this School, and afterwards vicar of Nottingham :

*‘ Condit uterg ; Scholas hinc Harrisonus, et Inde*

*‘ Lawsonus major dic uter an melior.*

*‘ Hic pueris sedes ponit, sed et ille Magistria*

*‘ Doctior hinc Juvenis prodeat, inde Senex.’*

Dr. Samuel Pullan, afterwards Archbishop of Tuam, in Ireland, was the first master of this school in the year 1667.

The Rev. Mr. Whiteley, M. A. and the Rev. Mr. Swaine, B. D. are now masters. The salaries are for the head master 200l. and for the second 100l. per annum.

## THE CHARITY SCHOOL

Is situated in the Lands, near St. John's Church, It was built by Mr. John Harrison, who endowed it with Eighty Pounds per annum. A number of poor boys are in this School instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic; the girls, besides being taught to read and write, are instructed in the necessary arts of knitting, sewing, spinning, &c. Both boys and girls are clothed in a comfortable blue cloth dress; the former instead of hats wear a blue cloth cap. Its funds, besides the endowment of Eighty pounds per annum, by



the founder, consists of divers benefactions, and legacies given to it at various times. The present chief master is Mr. Riley, an able mathematician, and a very worthy man.

### SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

These useful institutions have long been established in this town, and are now very numerous. They were originally intended to embrace every class and mode of religious faith; but this liberal idea was soon abandoned, in consequence of which the Dissenters established Schools for the instruction of the children of their own poor, and of such others as were willing to attend them.

It is not easy to calculate the good effects of this modern plan of instructing the poor; thousands who must otherwise of necessity have remained ignorant both of moral and religious truth, have now the means of obtaining such a share of both, as will in all probability have a powerful influence over their future conduct, and also be furnished with a rational and cheap amusement. Near 2000 children are instructed in the Schools of this establishment, and are also taught Church catechism. Select passages from the the prayers and liturgy of the established Church, are read morning and evening.

The following Institution, though comparatively private and unobtrusive, ought by no means to be overlooked in this sketch of the public Charities of the town:

### THE SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY,

At Mill-Hill, was established in 1799.—In this School 50 poor girls from nine years of age and upwards are taught reading, knitting, and sewing; 25 of them in the forenoon, and 25 in the afternoon. The School is supported by subscription, and managed by a committee of 12 of the subscribers—Ladies, who each attend a month in rotation, to assist the school mistress. The expences amount to about 40*l.* a year, but as the subscriptions, together with the earnings in the School exceed that sum, the surplus is laid out at the close of the year in cloathing the children.

Since the commencement of this School, there have been three others established in Leeds, of similar extent, principles, and management, excepting one which is open only in the evenings, in order to admit girls who are employed in the manufactories, or otherwise during the day. Girls may remain four years at these Schools, and many of the pupils have made great proficiency in plain needle work. The progress of learning

in these Schools, and their utility in preparing girls for service, and rendering them capable of filling their stations in future life with credit to themselves, and advantage to their connexions, has far exceeded the expectations of the first promoters of these charities.

### ALMS HOUSES.

The most ancient of these asylums of old age and poverty, are situated at Quebec, near Mill-Hill Chapel, and were erected by Mr. Josiah Jenkinson; it appears from Thorseby's History of Leeds, published in 1715, that a court or garth was in his time attached to these Alms-Houses; as in describing the situation of Mill-Hill Chapel, he says, it is adjoining the Alms-House Garth. Mrs. Dally, relict of the late St. George Dally, Esq. of this town, has lately bequeathed a legacy of 200l. to these Hospitals.

### THE OLD ALMS-HOUSES,

As they are now generally called, to distinguish them from those erected by Mrs. Potter, are situated in the 'Lands,' near St. John's Church; they are twenty in number, and were endowed by the celebrated Mr. John Harrison, for the reception 'of indigent aged women of good conversation, and industrious.' To these Hospitals twelve others have been lately erected in pursuance of the Will of Arthur Ikin, Esq. of

this town. Both these, and the more ancient ones are very commodious and afford a comfortable asylum to 64 aged persons, and together with an annuity of Six Guineas per annum, (which each occupier, receives in quarterly payments) contribute to make happy the evening of their days.

### NEW ALMS-HOUSES

Are pleasantly situated in Wade-Lane, and form three sides of a square. They were founded in pursuance of the Will of Mrs. Potter, for the widows of decayed tradesmen, who are each allowed an annuity of 10*l.* per annum. The houses, which are ten in number, are extremely comfortable and convenient, and are a very respectable asylum for those who have been accustomed to the decencies of life. The nomination of persons to a situation in these Hospitals is in the hands of the Trustees of this charity. The following inscription is engraven on a stone tablet opposite the entrance into the court :

THIS ALMS-HOUSE,  
For ten virtuous Poor Widows,  
Was founded pursuant to  
And endowed by the last Will of  
**Mrs. MARY POTTER,**  
The Widow of Mr. THOMAS POTTER,  
Late of Leeds, Merchant,  
And Alderman,  
Anno Domini, 1737.

**WORK HOUSE,**

Was built by Richard Sykes, Esq. Alderman of this borough, in 1629, and was enlarged in 1736; and to which a new building of considerable extent has been recently added. The management of the house, and of the relief of the poor in general, is in the hands of a Committee composed of the Overseers, Churchwardens, and Trustees of the Workhouse, assisted by proper servants.

Perhaps in no township are the inmates of a Workhouse more happy, or better provided for than in this. And for which comfort they are principally indebted to the very worthy Master of the Workhouse, Mr. Linsley, whose mildness, and yet firmness of temper peculiarly fit him for the situation in which he is placed, and which he fills with equal benefit to the township, and to the poor.

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**COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS.****MIXED CLOTH HALL.**

This is a very extensive building, erected in the year 1758\*, by subscription. It consists of a main body and two wings, remarkably well lighted by large windows. It is divided into

\* Before which time the cloth markets were held upon the Bridge, and in Briggate.

six long streets or aisles, and incloses an open area. The building is  $127\frac{1}{2}$  yards in length, and 66 in breadth. Each street contains two rows of stands, the freehold property of separate manufacturers. Each stand is 22 inches in front, and the whole number is 1770. The number of master manufacturers of coloured cloth, who expose it to sale in this market, are estimated at about two thousand.

### THE EXCHANGE

Is adjoining to the Cloth Hall, of which it is an appendage; it is a beautiful building, on an octagan form, for the convenience of the Merchants, and for transacting business respecting the Cloth Hall by the Trustees.

### WHITE CLOTH HALL

Was built in 1774. It is a large square building, 297 feet in length, and 210 in breadth; divided into 5 streets, each containing two rows of stands, the whole number of which is 1210. There are about 40 persons who have two stands each, and above 100 who have none; but hire stands in the Hall, pay a fixed price for every piece of cloth exposed to sale.

The amount of master white cloth manufacturers may therefore be estimated at about 1300. There is also another small

**CLOTH HALL,**

In Albion Street, for the accommodation of irregulars, who have not served a regular apprenticeship to the trade, are therefore not permitted to sell their cloth in the other Halls.

**BANKERS.**

**OLD BANK**, Messrs. Beckett, Calverley and Co. Briggate.—**NEW BANK**, Fields, Cleaver and Greenwood, Boar-Lane.—**COMMERCIAL BANK**, Messrs. Fenton Scott, Nicholson and Smith, Bottom of Briggate. The Banks are open from nine till four every day, and on Tuesday till five.

**POST OFFICE.**

There is no public building appropriated for this purpose; it has hitherto been attached to the house of the Post Master, and has been frequently removed: it is at present situated in Call-Lane.

The North Mail goes out at twenty minutes past six o'clock every evening, which takes letters for the East and North Ridings of Yorkshire, the Counties of Durham, Northumberland, Westmoreland and Cumberland, the North of Ireland, the Isle of Man, and all Scotland; also the intermediate Towns from Tadcaster to Ware, and from Stilton to Hatfield, with Lincolnshire, Cam-

bridgeshire, and all Norfolk, (except Diss and Harlston, which go by London, and Bury St. Edmunds, in Suffolk); the same arrives about four o'clock every morning.

The London Mail goes out at nine every evening, and arrives about three o'clock every morning, except Friday, when no London bags are sent, and Tuesday, when none are received.

The West Mail arrives about six o'clock every evening.

The Packet nights for all parts of Europe, are Sundays and Wednesdays, (Lisbon excepted, which is on Sundays only), for America the Monday preceding the first Wednesday in every calendar month; and for the West-Indies the Mondays preceding the first and third Wednesdays in every calendar month.

The Post Office opens at eight o'clock in the morning in winter, and seven in summer; and shuts up at half past eight in the evening.

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## PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

### THE THEATRE.

The present House is situated in Hunslet-Lane, and was opened in 1771, it is a plain brick building, the dimensions of which are small, and its



form inconvenient, and which is utterly unworthy of the populous and flourishing town to which it belongs. The late Tate Wilkinson, Esq. was manager of this place of entertainment upwards of thirty two years, and was succeeded in that department by his son, John Wilkinson, Esq. the present manager. The House is only open during the summer months; the Company usually commence their campaign about the middle of May, and close it the beginning of August, after which they take a regular tour to York, Hull, Doncaster, Wakefield, and Pontefract. It is to be regretted, that there are no performances during winter, the most proper time for Theatrical amusements.

During the Company's stay, they perform three, and occasionally four nights in the week. The doors are opened at six and the performance begins about seven in the evening, and commonly ends about eleven o'clock. The price of admission to the Boxes is 3s. to the Pit 2s. and the the Gallery 1s.—the half price commences at the third act of a play. It would however add to the credit of the manager, to discontinue this custom, as it has a tendency to disturb the more rational part of the audience, by the introduction of inebriated young men, girls of the town, and other disorderly persons.

The Leeds Stage can boast of being a nursery for that of London; since the erection of this

Theatre; the Leeds audience have fostered the opening genius of many performers who have since become the ornament and pride of the British metropolis. Amongst other names high in dramatic fame, who have been regularly engaged as performers here, are the following—Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Cherry, Mr. Emery, Mr. Matthews, Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Inchbold, Miss Duncan, Miss Smith, &c.

Public amusements, especially those of the Drama are calculated to give us an insight into the taste and manners of a nation; in popular Tragedies, we trace the refinement of the passions; Comedies are often satires on existing follies and fashions of the times; and even Pantomimes generally exhibit caricatures of the frivolities of the day.

### CONCERT ROOM.

The Concert Room is situated in Albion Street, and was opened a few years ago. It is exceedingly commodious, and finished with great elegance; qualities which it is said to possess equal to any other room, merely as a Concert Room, in the county. The seats are well disposed for the auditors, and are calculated to hold a considerable number commodiously. The Orchestra is well formed and arranged.

Some gentlemen perform occasionally in the instrumental parts on the public nights, who take these opportunities of displaying their several abilities. The Concerts are supported by subscriptions, which admit a gentleman and a lady to each performance, and the tickets are transferable. Non-subscribers are admitted by tickets at 3s. 6d. each.

### ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

The Assembly Rooms are over the North Side of the White Cloth Hall. Before the erection of the present building, the Assemblies were held in the old rooms, in Kirkgate\*. The Ball Room is spacious and handsomely decorated, and the band of music is placed over the entrance. The Card Rooms and other appendages, are corresponding to the stile of the Ball Room.

The Assemblies are in the winter season, and commence about October, and terminate on the King's birth night, and are supported in the same manner as the Concerts. They are in general well attended. A master of the ceremonies is annually elected, who presides, as is usual on these occasions, over the decorum of the room.

\* This place is now occupied by a party stiling themselves REVIVALISTS, who lately separated from the Old Connexion of Methodists.

## RIDING SCHOOL.

This is at the East end of the town, on the York road, it is a large quadrangular building, with a neat front, and emblematical devices; it has been lately erected for the purpose of training the Gentlemen Cavalry.

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COURTS OF JUSTICE, &c.

## MOOT HALL,

So called from the Saxon mote, a meeting or convention of the inhabitants of a county or district. This is the public Hall of the town, situated at the North end of Briggate, and was erected about the year 1713, on the scite of the old commitium, with a neat front and ornaments, consisting of the town's arms, in relievo, betwixt the ensigns of mayoralty, two maces, the fleece in the shield denoting the woollen manufacture, and the owls (being the Saville's arms) in memory of Sir John Saville, the first honorary Alderman after the incorporation of the town and parish, in the second year of Charles I.

In the front is a marble statue of her Majesty Queen Anne, which was presented to the town by Alderman Milner; and executed by

Carpenter, of London. When he had perfected this exquisite specimen of his art, it was viewed by many of the nobility and gentry, who generally esteemed it the best that was ever made, not excepting the celebrated one in St. Paul's Church yard.

Below this statue was placed the following inscription, but now illegible :

Ecce! Insignem statuam Londinensi  
(Ultra ipsam Paulinam Londinensem)  
Insignissimæ Reginæ  
Annæ  
Omni licet imagine longe majori  
Pie consêcratem.  
Et a Gulielmo Milner, Armigero,  
Prudenti Justiciario,  
Fideli subito  
Generoso Cive,  
Opulento mercatore,  
Penitus exstructam.

A more inconvenient situation can scarcely be imagined than the Moot Hall, for a Court of Justice, being in the most noisy and bustling part of the town, where the eloquence of Counsel is frequently overpowered by the stentorian lungs of a cart-man, or the rattling of a carriage, and its internal accommodations are not more inviting, in short, it ought to be indicted as a nuisance ;

and the same observation will apply with still greater propriety to

### THE PRISON,

Which stands at the top of Kirkgate, in a very narrow and confined situation, and contains five or six dark and miserable apartments, without so much as a sewer or a fire place in the whole Prison; none of the windows of this gloomy mansion are glazed, so that in winter, the unhappy wretches who lodge in it must be almost perished with cold. It is but justice to add, that persons are seldom confined here more than one or two days—this observation we believe was made to the benevolent Howard, who indignantly exclaimed, “An HOUR is too long to remain in such a place.”

### THE ROTATION OFFICE

Is a brick building, situated in Kirkgate; it receives its name from the circumstance of the Magistrates attending here in rotation to hear and determine all matters which come under their cognizance as Magistrates of the borough, and which can be determined without the intervention of a jury; and also to grant warrants, and examine persons charged with felony, assaults, and misdemeanors, previous to their being commit-

ted for trial. In a room under the Rotation Office is

### THE CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

This Library was established in the year 1768, and contains a great number of valuable Books; it is supported by subscription; and managed by a committee of twenty gentlemen, who are elected annually from the subscribers at large. The present price of a Ticket is Four Guineas, and the annual subscription is 7s 6d. Each subscriber can take out of the Library at one time, two complete sets of Books. It is in contemplation to erect a new Library Room as soon as a convenient situation can be procured.



## SURVEY

OF THE

### STREETS AND SQUARES.

Perhaps the most pleasing view of Leeds is from a rising ground on the road to Beeston, from which the elegant buildings of Park-Place, Park-Row, the Cloth-Hall, the Infirmary, and the different Churches, may be seen to great advantage.

The greatest length of the town is from West to East, and which taken from Park-Place the western

extremity, to its eastern termination, St. Peter's Square, is about one mile and a half; from North to South it does not extend more than half a mile. In this estimate several streets and squares not joined to the town by a continuity of buildings are omitted.

We shall begin our present survey at the West end of the town, where the object that first solicits attention is PARK-PLACE, which is a very elegant range of buildings, with a South aspect, and which commands a very pleasing view of the country, particularly of the river Aire; all the houses are built in a very superior style, and are principally inhabited by affluent merchants or gentlemen who have retired from business. The promenade in Park-Place is, without exception, one of the most pleasing in the town. Immediately to the North of Park-Place is the New Road to Bradford, which was first opened for carriages in the year 1802; this road, besides avoiding much hilly ground saves at least half a mile, in the distance from Leeds to Kirkstall, (three miles) where it terminates, and to which place a broad flagged foot path is continued, to the great comfort of pedestrians, who here perambulate in great numbers, particularly on Sundays, when the road is crowded with well dressed people.

On the North side of the New Road is St. PAUL'S SQUARE; and though the houses



are not equal to those in Park-Place, they are all well-built in the modern style. On the South side of this Square stands St. Paul's Church, a very elegant structure, in the modern style of architecture, (page 32.) The area of the Square is laid out with considerable taste, and in a few years will furnish a very agreeable promenade. Following the line of the New Road we arrive at the Infirmary (43), which, with the Mixed Cloth-Hall (50) form one side of a very extensive square, but which from being built at very different periods, has no aggregate name. The West side is called EAST-PARADE, the North, SOUTH-PARADE, and the East, PARK-ROW; the whole of which consists of genteel, well-built houses; the area of the square, which is very extensive, is partly laid out in gardens and partly used as tenter ground.

Pursuing the same line of road, we arrive at QUEBEC, near which is situated the Mill-Hill Chapel (34), and Jenkinson's Alms-Houses (54); immediately contiguous to which is MILL-HILL; this is not so much the name of a street as of a district. Passing along a short street to the right, we arrive at an elegant mansion formerly occupied by Dr. Wilson, Bishop of Bristol, which is situated on the banks of the Aire. Near this place the ancient Castle of Leeds is supposed to have stood, and adjoining to it was a large park; of the castle there is not the least vestige remaining; the park still

gives name to a considerable part of the West end of the town, and which being part of the Crown lands pays a yearly acknowledgment to His Grace the Duke of Leeds. Returning from this mansion which is now occupied by Mr. Winter, merchant, we pass in a direct line to the KING'S-MILLS, which are very extensive buildings the property of J. P. Neville, Esq.—From some remains of feudal servitude, the greater part of the inhabitants are bound to grind their corn at these Mills; this is justly considered as a very serious grievance, and no less a sum than Ten Thousand Pounds have been offered, and been refused, to redeem the town from this badge of slavery. By a record in the Tower of London, it appears that on the 46th Edward III. these Corn-Mills were then held by virtue of letters patent under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster, under the yearly rent of 13l. 6s. 8d. but it is added *valet de claro per ann. 126l. 13s. 4d.*

Passing on a short but crooked, narrow and ill-built street called SWINE-GATE, we arrive at the River Aire, over which is a strong and well-built BRIDGE, of four circular arches; it is uncertain in what year it was erected, but it must have been some years after the reign of James I. as in a survey published in his reign there was a Ferry where the Bridge now stands, the profits of which formed part of the jointure of his consort Queen

Ann. The Ferry-House was where the Golden Lion Inn is now situated.

Tradition says the Bridge was built out of the ruins of a Castle formerly situate upon the Mill-Hill. At the North end of the Bridge there formerly stood an ancient Chapel, which in Mr. Thoresby's time was used as a grammar school, but of which no vestiges now remain.

The cloth-market used formerly to be held upon this Bridge, and that when it was much narrower than it now is, the cloths being laid upon the battlements every Tuesday and Saturday morning, until the fourteenth of June, 1684, when it was removed into Broad-Street, or Briggate, where it continued until the Cloth-Halls were built. From the West side of the Bridge there is a road to a piece of ground called the TENTERERS. Thoresby observes that in the year 1583, when the stone stairs leading to the Tenters were erected by stones brought from Kirkstall Abbey, labourer's wages were only sixpence per day, whereas says he, now they are hardly content with double the sum. He also remarks, that the ground then let for a pair of tenters was but twenty six or twenty eight yards long, cloth being then generally made either into dozens of twelve yards each, or short cloths consisting of two such ends.

The Bridge was considerably widened a few years since, and an additional foot-path erected

on the West side. It is situated at the bottom of a very broad and spacious street, which before the erection of the Bridge appears to have been called Broad-Street, but since has received the appellation of Bridge-Gate, or as it is corruptly called BRIGGATE, which is a very noble and spacious street; and from the foot of the Bridge to Moot-Hall is about four hundred and fifty yards. If the row of houses which is built in the middle of the street, dividing it for the distance of one hundred and twenty yards into two miserable streets, we had almost said alleys, should ever be removed, this street would probably be equalled by few out of London, as the distance from the Bridge to the Head-Row is near half a mile. The street formed on the East side of Moot-Hall, is the SHAMBLES, the West side is called BACK OF THE SHAMBLES; that part of the street which is above this nuisance is the Corn-Market, where a convenient Cross is erected, from which it receives the name of CROSS-PARISH; and is not only the market for corn, but also for butter, eggs and poultry. At the top of Cross-Parish is a narrow street generally called NEW-STREET, which leads to St. John's Church, (29) which may be considered as the present northern boundary of the town. The corner house on the West side of the street is of great antiquity, and was formerly the Chantry of St. Mary Magdalen, founded by

Wm. Evers, Vicar of Leeds, Anno 1470. It may be observed here, that where the present cross stands, Mr. John Harrison erected one which was taken down when the present structure was built in 1776. An old prison formerly stood near the place, which was removed in 1655, being thought a blemish to the principal street.

We mentioned the Head Row as terminating Cross-Parish; this street has since the building of the New-Street, been divided into Upper and Lowerhead-Row. UPPERHEAD-ROW is to the West of Cross Parish, and has hitherto had more of antiquity in it than any street in the town, but during the writing of this, many of the old buildings on the South side of it have been taken down, and new houses are erecting in their room. Pursuing our walk up the street, we pass a narrow lane or street called LAND'S-LANE, which from its situation is very capable of being converted into an elegant and airy street.

Near the West Bar is the Red-Hall, so called because the first that was built of brick (Anno 1628). An apartment in this house is called the King's chamber ever since King Charles I. lodged in it.

Passing the Old Bar to Burley we arrive at a new well-built street called ALBION-STREET, and which is perhaps the pleasantest in the town; at the upper end of it on the West side is erected the new Methodist Meeting, which is a very neat

and elegant structure (39); the houses in this street are remarkably well built, and are chiefly inhabited by professional gentlemen and persons in a wholesale line of business, as no retail shops are allowed to be opened in it; on the West side of the street is situated the Concert Room, under which is a small Cloth-Hall (58). A road by the side of this building leads to Albion Chapel (34). On the East side of Albion-Street some elegant houses have lately been erected, (Commercial-Street) which are to form part of a street that is to open into Briggate, near the Moot-Hall; this, when accomplished, will be one of the greatest improvements which have ever taken place in the town, as, independent of its other advantages, it will introduce a current of air, where it is much wanted into the very heart of the town. Continuing our ramble down Albion-Street, we enter Bore, or as it is now generally written BOAR-LANE. This street was formerly the road from the castle to the town, and tho' narrow in some places, contains several very good houses, especially a stately mansion fronted with wrought stone, and to which the New Bank is now attached (58). Immediately adjoining this building is Trinity Church, (31); it is to be lamented that the buildings on the East side of it render it impossible to see it to any advantage; were

these houses removed, and the entrance into Briggate widened to a line with this church, it would be an inconceivable improvement to the appearance of the town, and render this church one of its greatest ornaments.

LEEDS possesses the capabilities of becoming perhaps one of the handsomest towns in the kingdom, if they were judiciously improved. It is devoutly to be wished that another Mr. Harrison would arise, who would devote his talents and opulence to the improvement of it. Boar-Lane opens into Briggate, opposite a short new street called DUNCAN-STREET, which consists of new well-built houses, and is used as a flesh-market; there is however a high dead wall at the North East end of it, that substracts considerably from its general good appearance.

Pursuing our walk down this street, we enter CALL-LANE, which is rather a long street, and connects Kirkgate with the bottom of Briggate; though several good houses have been lately erected in this street, its general aspect is but mean, nor does it ever appear to have been a street of any note; it is however the residence of many wool-staplers, being very conveniently situated for that business, as a short street opens from Call-Lane to the White Cloth-Hall, nearly opposite Duncan-Street. Passing by Call-Lane Chapel, which has nothing in its exterior appearance to attract attention (35), (unless we add that there is joined to it a very

comfortable school-room for the use of Sunday scholars, and where as many as can attend are also taught to write on a Wednesday afternoon,) we enter a very long street, at the lower extremity of which is situated the Parish Church, (20) and from which it derives the name of KIRKGATE. If we were to estimate the importance of streets by the number of inhabitants they contain, Kirkgate would certainly claim distinguished notice, as it is extremely populous. But as fashionable people, and with them fashionable tradesmen, have deserted it, this street is fallen into some kind of disrepute, and if it did not happen to be the road to the Church, it would be a place, to adopt a fashionable phrase, which nobody knew; but as it is a wide, and upon the whole a well-built street, it may probably at some future period recover its former consequence. As we have happened to enter this street in the middle, and cannot very conveniently go two opposite ways at the same time, we must of necessity lose some time in passing over the same ground twice; turning to the left after coming to Call-Lane, we pass the Rotation Office, where the Magistrates meet to examine suspected persons, &c. (65) and under which the public Library is at present kept (65). Pursuing our tour a little further, the Prison (64) not only presents itself to view, but almost intercepts our passage, as the street from this part



to the entrance of Briggate is, by its intervention, contracted into less than half its former width, to the imminent danger of both pedestrians, equestrians, and charioteers, as Kirkgate End is one of the most busy parts of the town, at the confluence (if the expression will be tolerated) of two of its most populous streets.

Returning from this dangerous spot, we pass Vicar-Lane, in our way to the Church. The Vicarage, from which it derives its name, was probably when first built thought a magnificent structure, at present its external appearance is hardly decent, and its worthy occupier will scarcely say that the lines are fallen to him in a pleasant place, though he may have a goodly heritage. Having passed the Vicarage, there will be nothing to detain us until we arrive at the Parish Church, except just to notice that a street is opened into Kirkgate from St. Peter's-Square, named YORK-STREET, at the end of it is St. James's Church (33), which we before mentioned, as indeed we have also the Old Church, which Mr. Thoresby describes, as 'black but comely;' if it were not for the resemblance which he has discovered between the Church militant and this structure, we should almost be ready to question the propriety of the last epithet, as it has certainly an heavy appearance, and its internal structure is ill adapted for a numerous auditory.

On the North East side of the Church is the New Burying Ground, which is much more sequestered than the Church Yard, and is laid out in a very appropriate manner. A plan of the ground is marked out with great accuracy, and every new inhabitant of this solitary domain takes his station by the side of the last comer, there undisturbed to mingle into his native dust.

A neat but plain house is erected in this field of death, for the residence of the Parish Clerk; its situation few would chuse; surrounded on all sides by the trophies of the grave, it is natural to imagine, that the feelings of its inmates must be tinged with the sadness of the scene.

Leaving this solemn place, and keeping to the left, we pass over a small stream, which takes its rise near Addle, and changes its name as it alters its situation. We believe it is here called LADY-BECK, and at a short distance from this place it enters the Aire. After passing the Bridge, we continue our course for about fifty yards, when we turn to the left and enter DUKE-STREET, which is a new-built street, chiefly inhabited by artizans and small shop-keepers. This street conducts to a number of new buildings, distinguished by the names of OFF-STREET, YORK-STREET, and YORK-BUILDINGS, the houses of which are similar to those in Duke-Street. From this place is a view of St. James's Church, and to

which York-Street is proposed to be continued, which will connect Kirkgate with these buildings.

Keeping the same line of road, we enter **ST. PETER'S-SQUARE**, the whole of which, together with the streets before enumerated, are of modern date. St. Peter's-Square consists of houses of a description equally remote from splendor and meanness, and are occupied by persons in the middle ranks of society.

Pursuing a northern direction, we pass a narrow street called **HIGH-STREET ST. PETER'S**, inhabited by the sons of labour. Within about one hundred yards of this street, on the right of the road is situated the Methodist Chapel, (38) near which is an extensive burying ground; but though this burying ground is exclusively used by the Methodists, the Ministers of the Old Connexion decline to perform the rites of burial, lest they should be considered as Dissenters. This scruple in men who are licenced as Dissenting Teachers is rather extraordinary.

Within a few yards of the Baptist Chapel, which is on the left side of the road (37), we enter **LADY-LANE**, so called because a Chantry dedicated to the service of Mary, (the mother of our Saviour) was formerly situated here. It was called the New Chapel, to distinguish it from the Chantry of Mary Magdalen, in Cross-Parish, and was founded by the Parochians, but in what year is uncertain. In the 37th Henry VIII.

this Chantry was valued at 8l. 13s. per annum, and its last Priest was interred in St. Peter's Church in the year 1563.

A new and elegant edifice has recently been erected by the adherents of the Romish Church, for the performance of the numerous ceremonies of their pompous ritual. The number of new erections in and near this street are very considerable, and will probably in a few years diverge into new streets and squares, for which there is sufficient room on the North side. At the bottom of this street is a spring of excellent water, called Lady-Well, which affords a copious supply of that necessary article to this populous part of the town.

At the upper extremity of this street is situated the Workhouse (56), which in Mr. Thoresby's time was called the House of Correction, though he says, it was never used as an House of Punishment, unless compelling the lazy to work can be so considered.

NORTH-PARADE is a name recently given to a part which was formerly distinguished by several names, one of which was High-Causeway, which a few years ago was very significant, as the foot path was raised near three yards from the carriage road, but which is now completely levelled, to the great convenience and improvement of this part of the town ; immediately adjoining North-Parade is VICAR-LANE, on the South end of which

is situated the House of Recovery (46), and the Vicarage; and into which UNION-STREET, EBENEZER-STREET, and GEORGE'S - STREET, all modern erections, branch into this street, but which do not merit the notice of a stranger.

LOWERHEAD-ROW is an improving street, and in which the Swine Market still continues to be held to the great inconvenience of the inhabitants, and annoyance of passengers. In this street was formerly a capital messuage called Rockley-Hall, once the seat of a very ancient family of that name. The benevolent Mr. Harrison, (or as Mr. Thoresby calls him, the benefactor) bought this old hall, with a considerable estate in land of Mr. Falkingham, and gave the rents thereof to pious uses, and particularly towards the education and maintenance of the indigent descendants of his two sisters. This hall was built of timber, and of a very antique form; instead of deals or boards for the floors, were oak planks of so considerable a thickness, that joists were made of them for part of the present brick-building that succeeds it in name as well as place.

Returning to North-Parade, and taking a northern direction we pass the Free Grammar School, in which many eminent men first obtained the rudiments of classic lore. This part of the town is astonishingly improved within these few years, and will furnish a very agreeable walk to the

stranger. A new street called **TEMPLAR-STREET**, is at present erecting on the East side of the road, and which to judge from the style of the houses that are already built, will make a very respectable addition to this **TOWN-END**, as it is absurdly called ; in fact, the part included in our present survey has not received any name by which it can properly be distinguished from other parts of the town ; the descriptive name **Town-End** is obviously vague and indeterminate, and to add the epithets **North East** to it would be intolerably verbose ; but as pointing out an evil without suggesting a remedy is useless, we would propose, that from the **Workhouse** to the end of the paved road, which terminates at the house formerly well known as the **White House**, should be called **HOWARD'S-PLACE**. Why should not a man whom all nations agree to revere, give name to our habitations, as well as warriors, whose most glorious exploits always occasion the painful dissolution of the tenderest ties of humanity, and make many of our dwellings, houses of mourning.

At the end of the line of road we have pointed out, and which we will presume to call **Howard's-Place**, is a **Foot-Path** on the West of the road, which conducts us into **LONG BALK-LANE**, and from which we have a view of **GROVE-PLACE**, a range of good new-built houses, and the situation of which is remarkably pleasant and rural ; almost immediately adjoining to **Grove-Place** is

**PROVIDENCE-ROW**, which consists of several remarkably pleasant houses, each of which is accommodated with a garden in front, a very considerable acquisition when it can be enjoyed so near the town. The whole front of these buildings is covered with different wall-fruit trees, which gives them a beautiful and rural appearance, and makes this row an eligible situation for persons in a line of business which does not require residence upon the spot. It was built by Mr. J. Nelson, of this town, woolstapler.

A new **SQUARE\*** has been laid out near Providence-Row, and which is intended to be built in a very superior style; it is to have a South East aspect. We are scarcely correct in calling it a Square, as it will only be built on three sides, leaving the other open to the South East. Several houses have already been erected in furtherance of the plan, which are extremely well-built, and covered with blue slate.

At the upper end of this new Square we enter **WOODHOUSE-LANE**, by a short road which has been recently opened, called **NORTH-STREET**. From the elevated situation of Woodhouse-Lane, and the fine prospect it affords of Aire Dale, combined with its freedom from the smoke of manufactories, it has become a favourite place for building on, especially genteel detached houses,

\* This will be called Queen's-Square when completed.

of which there are many between Leeds and the village (one mile).

The Leeds end of Woodhouse-Lane was anciently called **LIDGATE**, and as we have nothing to add to the statement of Mr. Thoresby, we shall give it in his own words. 'The street adjoining to the Bar is yet called Lidgate, from a Saxon word importing a populous gate, from the great concourse of people who passed through it. This gate seems to have been the ancient road from the North. This being the highest part of the town, was made choice of for building a tower upon. I have perused some manuscript surrenders belonging to the Lords of this Manor, wherein it is called Tower-Hill; and in 1695, when some workmen were digging deep to lay a foundation for the vast cistern which was to serve as a repository for river water, (which was then conveyed in lead pipes from the Bridge foot to this place) they found at a considerable depth below the foundation of the late houses, prodigious large stones, and the ruins of a great wall, which seems to have been the ground work of such a fabric.'

Returning from the examination of these faint vestiges of former days, we have to notice a street on the West side of Woodhouse-Lane, called **St. JAMES'S-STREET**, and which is nearly in a line with the upper part of Providence-Row. The situation of this street is extremely pleasant, and



from its elevation, the air of it is remarkably salutary and bracing, from which circumstance it is preferred by invalids to any part of the town, and of course lodgings in it are in great request. As this place is out of the reach of the Water-Works, soft water is scarce, and its supply of spring water is not abundant. The West or bottom end of this street commands a very pleasant view of Aire Dale, and also of the principal buildings at the West end of the town. Immediately contiguous to the North of St. James's-Street is **CANKERWELL-LANE**, which derives its name from a spring of water much impregnated with iron, and which is the carriage road from **Woodhouse-Lane** to **LITTLE - WOODHOUSE**, which though rather beyond the line proposed in our present survey, shall be included in it; in the road to Little-Woodhouse down Cankerwell-Lane, are a few houses, named from the place on which they are built—**SUNNY-BANK**. The situation of these houses is very pleasant, but the carriage road to them is execrable. Little-Woodhouse is an ancient village or rather hamlet, and before the town had so much encroached upon it, was a most charming rural spot, and though the approximation of the town to it has somewhat sullied its blooming freshness, it still retains many beauties. A considerable number of gentlemen's seats have been recently built in this neighbourhood, one of them is **WOODHOUSE-HOUSE**,

which may be considered as a magnificent structure ; it is built of wrought stone, in the modern style of architecture, and commands the most extensive and varied prospect of any situation in this neighbourhood ; but notwithstanding the many advantages it possesses, it has remained untenanted for several years ; it is too large for a man of moderate fortune, and too near the town to be relished by the country gentleman.

A pleasant foot-path through the fields conducts us to Park-Lane, nearly opposite St. Paul's Square, and of which it is the northern boundary. Before the New Road to Kirkstall was opened, Park-Lane was the only road to Bradford, &c. at present the number of carriages which pass upon it are inconsiderable. A great number of Dwelling-houses, Warehouses, and Manufactories have been erected within these few years, and which extend without interruption to DRONYLEATH, which is in a parallel line with the West end of Park-Place, where we commenced our survey, and which we shall here terminate.

## PRIVILEGES AND FEUDAL RIGHTS.

Leeds, though a very ancient, is not a Parliamentary Borough, which circumstance, (considering the profligacy and the party feuds that elections for Boroughs usually occasion), has doubtless been of great advantage to it. Nor can the inhabitants of Leeds boast of any exclusive right to exercise within its precincts any manual trade or liberal profession, but every man has the unquestioned privilege of exercising in it any trade or calling for which his education or genius may fit, or Inclination direct him; and to its freedom from this remnant of feudal barbarity the town is doubtless indebted for much of its present opulence: For exclusive privileges and restrictive laws have ever served only to foster indolence, and damp the energy of inventive genius.

**FEUDAL RIGHTS.** These are few in number, and unimportant in their operation, and are in general limited either to the performance of an insignificant ceremony, or the payment of a trivial fine on the conveyance of an estate. But we must except from this negative praise of being only slightly inconvenient, the rights claimed and exercised by the occupiers of the King's-Mills, of compelling the inhabitants of the Manor of Leeds to grind their corn at the said Mills: from this unpleasant restraint, those houses which are

situated within the Manor of Whitkirk are exempt, and which immunity adds considerably to their value.

An attempt was however made in the year 1787, by the proprietors of the Mills to deprive them of this exemption; for this purpose an action at law was instituted against Mr. PEART, for withdrawing his suit and service from the King's Mills. This cause, which excited very great interest, was tried at York Assizes, in March, 1787; when after a long trial, in which a great number of witnesses were examined, the rights of the defendants were fully confirmed by the decision of the Jury.

The houses which are thus exempt, were formerly part of the possessions of the dissolved monastery of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

We believe that a suit at law has been since defended by the inhabitants of the Manor of Leeds to limit or take away the extensive rights claimed by these Mills, but which was unsuccessful, as was also a negotiation to purchase the right, though an immense sum was offered for that purpose.

The Lords of the Manor of Leeds still hold a Court Leet at the Moot-Hall, at which a Jury are impannelled, whose duty it is to examine into the state of the weights and measures, and to present such persons to the Court as shall have any in their possession short of the proper standard.

It is also part of their duty to exhibit to the Court all encroachments upon the rights of the Manor.

A toll of all the corn exposed for sale in the market was formerly taken, but as it was supposed to have prevented corn being brought to the market during a late scarcity, it was judiciously compounded for by the payment of an annual sum, which is paid out of the Treasury of the Corporation.

Perhaps the present is the most proper place for mentioning BOND-MAN DAM, which is situated above the Mills, and which, as its name intimates, was formerly kept in repair by Bond Men, or Tenants, which were then pretty nearly synonymous terms. Thanks to the good providence of God, that these times are no more.

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## GOVERNMENT AND POLICE.

**GOVERNMENT.** The town is governed by a Corporate Body, under a Charter of the 13th Charles II. consisting of a Mayor and twelve Aldermen, a Recorder, Town's Clerk, and a Common Council of twenty-four persons, The Mayor is nominally elected by the Court of Aldermen and Common Council; but in point of fact, the Aldermen take the office in rotation: An office indeed by no means to be coveted, as

with it is connected a great deal of trouble, some expence, and no profit. The Aldermen are elected from the Councilmen, and the latter from the inhabitants at large, but not by them. Among the officers of the town we might also have classed the Chief Constable and the Beadle, personages who are, to vulgar thieves, as terrific as the Chief Justice himself.

The Mayor and Aldermen have within the Borough the same power as is derived by a commission of the Peace: they have the power to hear and determine summarily a great number of causes in the Revenue Laws; cases of complaint between masters and servants, and a number of offences respecting the decorum of the town: they have also the power of committing to prison for trial all persons charged with felonies, &c. committed within the Borough. For the execution of these various duties, the Mayor and one or more of the Aldermen attend at the Rotation every Tuesday and Friday forenoons. The very great increase which has of late years been given to the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace, has rendered the office of Mayor for this Borough very laborious.

A Sessions is held for the Borough of Leeds every three months, at the Moot-Hall, at which the Mayor presides; the Recorder however, recapitulates the evidence to the Jury, and passes

the sentence of the Court upon the prisoner ; but which sentence can in no case exceed transportation for seven years.

A general Sessions is held at Michaelmas for crimes committed out of the Borough, but within the West-Riding of this county ; at which such Magistrates as are of the commission attend, and one of them, who is elected chairman, presides as Judge ; but in the sentence to be passed upon the prisoners, all the Magistrates upon the Bench are equally consulted. Their power is limited by the same boundaries as the Borough Sessions. Indictments respecting the different highways in the Riding generally occupy much of their attention ; as also the disposal of vagrants, and various questions connected with the maintenance of the poor, and the general police of the county. The examination of the state of the prisons is also investigated and decided.

An application is intended to be made by the Magistrates of the West-Riding, the next Session of Parliament, for power to alter and erect new and convenient Sessions Houses. We trust this application will be successful, and that the first exercise of their new power will be in erecting a new Sessions House in this town.

**POLICE.** Many articles which might with propriety have been included under this head, have been anticipated under the former division

of the subject. The Borough of Leeds is divided into a number of districts, in each of which one or more Constables are appointed to preserve the public peace; but the office of Constable is so ancient and so universal, that it is unnecessary to speak of it as a local regulation; and to the office of Church-Wardens the same observation will equally apply: the superintendence of the temporal affairs of the Church, and the enforcing a proper degree of decorum in the public streets on the Sabbath days, is a principal part of their duty, and it is but justice to say, that with respect to the latter their labours are not wholly unsuccessful, as there is at least an outward degree of respect paid to the Christian Sabbath; an institution so peculiarly beneficial to the labouring part, that is, to a great majority of the community, that any encroachments upon it cannot be too sedulously guarded against by those who are real friends to the happiness of mankind. In this view it is a matter of just regret that the habitual and public breach of it by the manufacturers and dressers of cloth, in the suburbs of the town, should be tolerated, or connived at, by those whose duty it is to enforce the law in this respect.

There is no general Watch established as yet in Leeds; many attempts have been made to support one by voluntary subscriptions, but as a general measure it has hitherto failed: for though



most persons acknowledged its utility, many were disposed to avail themselves of its advantages without contributing to its support, which made it so expensive to the patrons of the scheme, that it has, in many instances been given up. But it is likely that the numerous recent robberies that have been committed during the night, will induce the inhabitants to apply to Parliament for an act to impose a rate for the maintenance of a general Watch.

The town is tolerably well lighted; but it would be a convenience worth purchasing at the price of a little increase in the rate, to have the advantage continued for nine months in the year instead of six. It may probably seem descending too low to mention the cleansing of the town under the head of Police; but the health and comfort of the inhabitants so materially depend upon a rigid attention to cleanliness, that all who remember the horrid state the streets were in when under the management of a public scavenger, will feel thankful that the good old custom has been resorted to, of obliging every occupier of a house in a public street to provide for removing the dirt from the space opposite the front of his house, at least once a week; and as this operation is generally performed through the whole of the town on the same day (Saturday) the streets are now reasonably clean. Perhaps it would be an improvement if the same regula-

tion could be extended to the alleys, or as they are called here, the yards of the town, most of which are very populous. It is also much to be wished that the use of cellars as habitations could be discontinued, for independent of the danger they occasion to persons walking on the foot-path, they are frequently the hot-beds of disease.

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### MARKETS, FAIRS, &c.

**MARKETS.** In all countries in which the distinction of town and country has obtained, it is necessary that there should be periodical and frequent returns of days for the sellers of the necessities of life to meet together, to dispose of their produce to the inhabitants of cities and towns, and purchase in return such of the productions of the artist and the manufacturer as they may need. Most of the modern towns of celebrity first derived their importance from the circumstance of these meetings taking place in them.

The markets were formerly held under the protection of the great Barons or Lords of the Manor; who demanded a certain proportion of what was brought into the town, as an acknowledgment or tribute: a toll of corn was the most general mode of levying this branch of their revenue, as being

the least perishable article, and was continued in this town until the year 1795, when it was discontinued, as it was supposed to deter many farmers from bringing their grain to this market. A sum of money is now annually paid to the person in whom the right was vested.

The Corn-Market is held in Cross-Parish every Tuesday, and begins at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, notice of which is given by the tolling of a bell. The market for grain is not equal to many in the neighbourhood; Wakefield in particular greatly exceeds it; and it is but a very small proportion of the grain consumed in Leeds that is purchased at this market. In other respects the town is well supplied with provisions, chiefly from the agricultural district to the East, Vegetables, though not so early as in some parts of the kingdom, are sold at reasonable prices, and are principally exposed for sale on the East side of Briggate. On the West side of Briggate the country shopkeepers and manufacturers expose their goods, shoes, hats, &c. which the resident shopkeepers are disposed to consider as an infringement upon their rights.

The Woollen Cloth Market for both coloured and white cloth is held at the different Halls, where purchases to an immense amount are frequently made in the space of an hour or two.

Saturday also is a considerable market for vegetables, butter, poultry, &c. and in particular

for butchers' meat, with which the Shambles is always plentifully stocked, and that of the best quality. On the evening of Saturday the town exhibits a very bustling appearance, from the great number of work-people who come to lay out the earnings of the week, some in the purchase of substantial viands, but too many dissipate a large proportion of it at the alehouse, or have to redeem their pledges from that bane of the poor man, the pawnbroker's shop. When the poor man shall enjoy a single pot of beer with his family by a comfortable fire side, then, and not until then, the alehouse will be less frequented, and a permanent amendment of the condition of the labouring poor be rationally expected.

**FAIRS.** In the infancy of commerce, and during an imperfect degree of civilization, Fairs were of great service, and afforded great encouragement to the infant arts. At these marts every thing curious and unusual was likely to attract attention, and secure a purchaser; all the ingenuity of a district was collected together, and these periodical meetings doubtless diffused a salutary impulse through every department of commerce, and paved the way for that eminence as a commercial and manufacturing nation which Great Britain now enjoys. Perhaps in the present advanced state of society the utility of Fairs may not be very evident, but they furnish a source

of amusement to the lower order of people and to children, which a good natured man would not wish to see them deprived of.

There are two Fairs held at Leeds, one on the 10th and 11th of July for horses, and the latter on the 8th and 9th of November for horned cattle. On the last of these days young persons of both sexes from the country attend to hire as servants, principally into the families of farmers.

The numerous villages in the vicinity of Leeds, of which we shall soon take a cursory survey, remind us of a rustic festival observed in these villages, somewhat akin to the Fairs, called a Wake or Feast: some of these are probably derived from our pagan ancestors, and were adopted into the Roman Church, to conciliate the minds of these rude savages, by assimilating to their superstition the scarcely less absurd superstitions of Popery. But with whatever religious rites these festivals were formerly connected, they are now only remembered as periodical seasons of hilarity and merriment. The rustic youths who are separated from their native village into different districts, generally contrive to assemble at the Village Wake, to join the festive dance: the prospect of it animates and cheers many a weary hour, and at these festivities are frequently formed those connections which promise to continue to the country "a bold peasantry—their

country's pride." Severe must be the temper which would abolish these little jubilees, because their origin was questionable, or on account of the occasional inconveniences which may attend them. The suppression of these festive meetings would materially subtract from the enjoyment of a large and valuable part of the community, nor would the loss to happiness be gained by virtue: the estimable virtues of love, of family connections, hospitality and chearful contentedness of mind, would, we are persuaded, be greatly diminished by the experiment.

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## MANUFACTURES.

The Woollen Cloth Manufacture is what gives consequence to the West-Riding of the County of York, and constitutes in a peculiar degree the prosperity of Leeds, which has become in a manner the emporium of the Woollen Manufacture of the county, of course it cannot be passed over in a description of Leeds, however concise, without some detail.

This important Manufacture began to revive in the Low Countries about the middle of the tenth century, when it became a separate occupation, and for about 400 years gave employment and comparative opulence to a numerous

people. About the year 1200 their merchants began to import wool, which they procured principally from this country; about the middle of the fifteenth century, the Woollen Manufacture of the Netherlands began to decline on account of the religious persecutions which took place there, when a number of workmen withdrew to this country, where they were received with great hospitality, and in return established those works which have so long benefitted the country.

Of the first establishment of the Woollen Manufacture in this county, there is no authentic account. It is said it first came into Yorkshire from Devonshire, where it had been settled by some workmen from Flanders. About the 17th Edward IV. two Fulling-Mills were erected at Rastrick, in the parish of Halifax; but the reign of Henry VII. has been mentioned as the principal period of the introduction of the Woollen Manufacture into these parts.

An act was passed in the reign of Philip and Mary to prevent the engrossing of wool by persons of large capitals; the following extract, though applicable principally to Halifax, furnishes a curious document of the state of the manufacture in this district; after alledging that the land about Halifax was barren, the act goes on to recite, 'that the inhabitants altogether do live by cloth-making, and the greater part of

‘ them neither getteth corne; nor is able to keep  
‘ a horse to carry wools, nor yet to buy much  
‘ wool at once, but hath ever been used to repair  
‘ to the town of Halifax, and there to buy from  
‘ the wool-driver, some a stone, some two, and  
‘ some three and four, according to their ability,  
‘ and to carry the same to their houses, some  
‘ three, four, five, or six miles, upon their heads  
‘ and backs, and so to make and convert the same  
‘ into yarn or cloth, and to sell the same, and  
‘ buy more wool of the wool-driver, by means of  
‘ which industry, the barren grounds in these parts  
‘ be much inhabited.’

In Lord Clarendon's History—Leeds with Halifax and Bradford were called, in the year 1642, ‘ three very populous and rich towns, depending wholly on clothiers;’ but though Leeds has been long distinguished as one of the clothing towns of Yorkshire, its pre-eminence does not seem to have been of very old date. Leland says, ‘ it is a pretty market town, but not so quick (busy) as Bradford.’

The great bulk of the Woollen Manufacture in this district consists of the coarser kinds of cloth, though the Manufactures of superfines has within these few years greatly increased; they are not however generally thought to equal those made in the West of England. Of late a great number of fancy articles have been made, such as swans-



downs, toilonets, kerseymeres, and a very rough kind of cloth called duffels; but no one of the above articles are exposed for sale in the Leeds Cloth-Halls, which are exclusively confined to the sale of mixed and white cloth. The clothing business is divided into two obvious divisions; the manufacture of cloth from dyed wool, and from wool in its native state. The former of these divisions, independent of those who live within the parish of Leeds, reside chiefly at Morley, Gildersome, Adwalton, Driglington, Pudsey, Farsley, Calverley, Eccleshal, Idle, Baildon, Yeadon, Guiseley, Rawden, and Horsforth, in or bordering upon the Vale of Aire, chiefly West; and at Batley, Dewsbury, Osset, Horbury, and Kirk-Burton, West of Wakefield, in or near the Vale of Calder. Not a single manufacturer is to be found more than one mile East, or two North of Leeds; nor are there many in the town of Leeds, and those only in the outskirts.

The white cloth is manufactured principally at Alverthorpe, Osset, Kirk-Heaton, Dewsbury, Batley, Birstall, Hopton, Mirfield, Hartshead, Cleck-Heaton, Little-Town, Bowling, and Shipley; a tract of country forming an oblique belt across the hills that separate the Vale of Calder from the Vale of Aire, beginning about a mile West of Wakefield, leaving Huddersfield and Bradford a little to the left, terminating at Ship-

ley on the Aire, and not coming within less than about six miles of Leeds on the right. The districts of the white and coloured cloth manufactory are generally distinct, but are a little intermixed at the South-East and North-West extremities.

The cloths are sold in their respective Halls rough as they come from the Fulling-Mills.— They are finished by the merchants, who employ dressers, dyers, &c. for that purpose. The dispersed state of the manufacturers in villages and single houses over the whole face of the country, is highly favourable to their morals and happiness. They are generally men of small capitals, and often annex a small farm to their other business; great numbers of the rest have a field or two to support a horse and a cow, and are for the most part blessed with the comforts, without the superfluities of life. But we regret to say, that this state of the manufacture is likely to be impaired, by the increasing habit of merchants concentrating in themselves the whole process of a manufactory from the raw wool to the finished piece; and of course it must be carried on in large buildings by the joint labour of numerous work-people; where the contaminating influence of vice spreads with fatal rapidity; and this depravity of morals must, to consider the subject merely in the narrow view of policy, ultimately

prove highly injurious to the real prosperity of the clothing district.

Perhaps the ill effects of these establishments are in nothing more obvious than in their unfavourable influence upon the females employed in them. Those who compare the difference in the management of a family in an agricultural district, with that of a young woman who has received her education in these seminaries, will be forcibly convinced of the truth of this remark. In the former we find cleanliness, economy, and a regard to the decencies of life; the children clean, healthy, and though coarsely, yet decently clad; and this with a comparatively small income. In the latter we find an offensive neglect of cleanliness, a total disregard of frugality, and every appearance of the most squalid poverty; the children are dirty, diseased, and in rags. But it is painful to dwell on so unpleasing a contrast especially when no rational project presents itself of removing the cause of the evil. The interference of the Legislature to check the increase of these large established manufactories is not to be expected (perhaps not to be desired): thus circumstanced, all that remains for the philanthropist, is to apply correctives, and more especially to apply assiduously to the forming of the minds of the rising generation to habits of virtue and religion, efforts which may produce much good, and perhaps demonstrate the possibility of

uniting an extensive and increasing commerce with virtue, economy, and happiness in the people.

A very large establishment for the manufacture of Woollen Cloths has been erected by Messrs. Wormald, Gott, and Wormald, in which the whole process of the manufacture of cloth, from the first breaking of the wool, to the finishing of the piece ready for the consumer, is carried on, and that to a very large extent; it is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Aire, and is enclosed round with an high wall; nor is it very easy to procure admittance. Many other establishments of a similar kind, but less in extent, have lately been erected.

The Linen Manufacture has within these few years, greatly increased, and is carried on almost exclusively in factories. The first of these was erected by Messrs. Marshall and Benyon, upon a very extensive scale, in Water-Lane, near Holbeck, and in which the manufacture of canvas, linen, linen-yarn, and thread-yarn, is carried on to a very considerable extent. In the year 1796, a very considerable part of it was burnt down, by which accident six or seven persons lost their lives by the falling of one of the walls. Among the sufferers was Robert Oastler, the son of Mr. Robert Oastler, of this town, merchant.

A very large and elegant range of buildings has recently been erected by Messrs. Benyons and Bage, in Meadow-Lane, for the manufacture

of linen, and which are completely fire-proof, no timber whatever being used in the building, its place being supplied by cast iron ; the floors are arches, raised upon cast iron beams, supported by iron pillars, the whole of which are firmly bound together.

There is also a Manufactory for canvas, and linen-yarn, at the Bank, carried on by Messrs. Moore, Shaw and Co.—and a linen-yarn, and thread Manufactory at the bottom of George-Street, belonging to Messrs. Millburn, Clayton, and Garsed ; also one for sacking, canvas, &c. by Messrs. James and Joshua Kaye, situated in Water-Lane.

The whole number of persons employed in the linen manufacture, in this town, cannot be less than 2000 persons, including children.

There are several Mills in the neighbourhood of Leeds, in which a considerable number of persons are employed in the spinning of cotton, but which is not generally wrought up into finished goods.

**IRON WORKS.** Several Foundries have recently been established in this neighbourhood ; one of which belongs to Messrs. Fenton, Murray, and Wood ; it is upon an extensive scale, and where a considerable manufactory of steam engines, machinery, &c. is carried on. Mr. Murray has risen from the situation of a common smith to his present station, by his extraordinary me-

**chanical genius.** A Foundry for cast iron and brass is also carried on by Mr. Pryor, and another by Mr. Warwick, which are chiefly employed in the casting of vessels.

A Brass and Iron Foundry, the property of Messrs. Cawood and Son, situated in Marsh-Lane, is also carried on to a considerable extent.

**POTTERIES.** A very large manufactory of Earthenware has for some years been carried on by Messrs. Hartley, Green and Co. the number of Proprietors in this Concern are very numerous, as it was upon its first establishment divided into a certain number of shares, being thought too large an undertaking for the capital of an individual; and we believe it has succeeded so well as to pay a very large dividend annually upon the capital employed in it.

'The Pottery,' as it is called by way of eminence, though there are several in the neighbourhood, is very advantageously situated near the Iron Railway leading to Middleton Colliery, from which it is distant nearly two miles, and about one mile from Leeds. The improvement which has of late years taken place in this manufacture has made it now an object of national importance; and it now holds a considerable rank in the value of our exports; and in a commercial view is one of the most beneficial to the country, be-

cause all its value is derived from the labour bestowed upon it, the raw material being of but little value. For this branch of commerce the nation is principally indebted to the ingenuity of Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, who invented a species of Earthenware for the table, of a firm and durable body, covered with a fine and brilliant glaze, and bearing sudden vicissitudes of cold and heat without injury. To this manufacture the Queen was pleased to give her name and patronage, and commanded it to be called 'Queen's Ware;' another very material improvement was the discovery of flint to mix with the clay: the flint after being burnt to make it more easily pulverise is ground down with water, and is brought from the mills in the consistence of cream.

The following brief account of the process used in the manufactory of Earthenware may not be unacceptable. A piece of the prepared mixture of clay and ground flint is taken to be moulded into the intended form, by a man who sits over a wheel, on the going round of which he continues forming the ware: this branch is called **THROWING**; and as water is required to prevent the clay from sticking to the hand, it is necessary to place it for a short period in a warm situation; it then undergoes the operation of being turned, by which it is made much smoother than it was before; it is then delivered to the person whose business it is to join to it the spout or handle.

after which it is placed in a saggar and fired; when this operation is completed, it is dipped into a fluid generally consisting of sixty pounds of white lead, ten pounds of ground flint, and twenty pounds of a stone from Cornwall, burned and ground, and as much water put to it as reduces it to the thickness of cream, which it resembles. The ware is then exposed to another operation of fire, by which it acquires a glossy covering which is given it by the vitrification of the above ingredients. Enamelled ware undergoes a third fire after its being painted, in order to bind the colour on.

A single piece of ware, such as a common enamelled tea-pot, passes through at least fourteen hands before it is finished.

We believe a very large proportion of the ware manufactured at these Potteries is exported, of which the exports to Russia form a considerable part.

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## COMMERCE.

The exportation of Woollen Goods forms the most prominent article under this head, and is what gives consequence to Leeds, as a Commercial town. America and Germany are at present the chief Foreign markets for our Woollens; though Portugal is also a place entitled to mention in this enumeration. Spain, previous to the War



of the Revolution, furnished a considerable market for our finer Cloths, and at the breaking out of which a very considerable sum was due from Spain to the Leeds Merchants, and which money the Government of Spain extorted from the debtors of the British Merchants, and transferred to the National Treasury. By the Treaty of Amiens the Court of Spain agreed to refund this property to the parties to whom it was due, but the stipulation was never executed by the Spanish Government. However the British Government appropriated part of the produce of the Spanish Treasure Ships, captured previous to a declaration of War, to liquidate the claims included in the Treaty of Amiens, and which certainly was the most just method of disposing of it. We believe that there is still a very considerable balance due to this town from Spain.

Previous to the severe measures adopted by the Batavian Government, a great quantity of Cloth was exported to that country; and even now, in spite of the rigorous edicts of a venal Government, our woollen manufactures still find a way there. This town also maintains an extensive commercial intercourse with Russia. Its trade to Ireland, Scotland, and the interior of England is also very considerable; in short, there is scarcely any country from the frigid to the torrid zone where the spirit of commercial enterprize has not opened a beneficial correspondence. And, notwithstand-

ing the Wars this country has been engaged in, the the Manufacture of Woollen Cloth has rapidly increased. Perhaps the annexed statement will exhibit this increase in the most satisfactory manner.

An account of the number of Broad and Narrow Woollen Cloths, milled at the several Fulling Mills, in the West-Riding of the County of York, from the 25th Day of March, 1788, to the 25th Day of March, 1805.

<i>Years.</i>	BROADS.		NARROWS.	
	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Yards.</i>
1788	139,406	4,244,322	132,143	4,208,303
1789	154,134	4,716,460	145,495	4,409,573
1790	172,588	5,151,677	140,407	4,582,122
1791	187,569	5,815,079	154,373	4,797,594
1792	203,623	6,383,589	156,475	5,153,945
1793	214,851	6,760,728	190,468	5,531,698
1794	190,332	6,054,946	150,666	6,783,722
1795	190,988	6,067,208	130,403	4,634,258
1796	250,993	7,759,907	155,087	5,172,511
1797	246,770	7,830,536	151,594	5,245,704
1798	229,292	7,235,038	156,709	5,503,648
1799	224,159	7,134,114	148,566	5,180,313
1800	272,755	8,806,688	180,168	6,377,277
1801	285,851	9,263,966	169,262	6,014,420
1802	264,082	8,699,242	137,231	4,833,534
1803	265,660	8,686,046	137,231	5,023,996
1804	266,785	8,942,798	139,575	5,023,996
1805	298,178	9,987,252	150,010	5,460,179

It ought to be observed that a variety of articles of Woollen Cloth under the denomination of bearskins, toilonets, swansdowns, kerseymeres, &c. are not included in the foregoing statement, and for which may be safely added, a sixth part to the annexed statement for the last ten years. In the year 1769, the number of yards of Broad Cloth stamped was only 1,771,667.

The exportation of Worsted Goods or Stuffs, though on the decline from the preference given to the more elegant productions of the Cotton Loom, still form an important branch of the trade of the town. The chief seats of the Worsted Manufacture are the towns and neighbourhoods of Bradford and Halifax.

Though a very considerable manufacture of linen, canvas, thread, &c. has been carried on for some years, it has not added to the number of our exports, but has hitherto been confined to the domestic trade of the country.

Earthenware is exported to a considerable annual amount, but the probable extent of which we have at present no means of ascertaining, from the circumstance we before noticed, that the whole value of the article was derived from the labour employed upon it; we may infer that it is a species of trade very advantageous to the country. Some exports were formerly made to Holland, but we believe they are at present confined to Germany and Russia.

The many advantages which this town possesses with respect to the convenience of Water Carriage, and the cheapness of Coals, combined with the large capital of many of its Merchants and Manufacturers, will, in all probability, long insure it a pre-eminent rank among the manufacturing and commercial towns in this kingdom. Nay, we will venture to go further, and to suggest, that with these advantages, aided by the great improvements in Machinery, our commercial consequence may be yet only in its infancy, and that if unchecked by any untoward political events, our Manufactures and Commerce will continue to increase with an accelerated pace for a long series of ages yet to come.



## RIVERS AND CANALS.

The great advantages of Water Carriage, and the facilities it affords to Commerce, are too obvious to be insisted upon, and have given rise to many stupendous undertakings in order to create it, where nature had not even furnished the outline, and where the interposition of rocks and mountains seemed to present a barrier insurmountable by the utmost efforts of human ingenuity: Such an undertaking was the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

We shall however first describe the **RIVER AIRE**, which from its antiquity has certainly a prior claim to our notice. The Aire has its source near Malham-Moor, flows through a romantic valley, passes near Skipton and Keighley, and from thence to Leeds, from which place it is navigable; it is joined by the Calder, at Castleford, a considerable village, about ten miles below Leeds; the united streams then pass on by Ferrybridge and Snaith, to the River Ouse, near Howden, which last river enters the Humber near Blacktoft, and rolls its mighty waters into the German Ocean.

An Act was obtained in the reign of King William III. in the year 1698, for making the Aire navigable, which was soon after carried into execution, and the right of the Navigation upon it is the property of a number of individuals, called the Proprietors of the Aire and Calder Navigation; and who of course have the power of regulating the freight of goods. It has been in contemplation to form a navigable Canal from this place to Selby; a plan, which if executed, would be of invaluable service to this town, as the Navigation up the Aire from Selby to Leeds is intolerably tedious, and liable to perpetual interruptions, either from a want or a superfluity of water.

The Aire also supplies the town with water, which is brought by a tunnel from the King's Mills to the Water-Works, near the Bridge, and

from which place it is forced by a powerful engine into three very large reservoirs, situated at the highest part of the town, and from which, after remaining a certain time to deposit its impurities, it is distributed by leaden pipes into every part of the town, and almost into every house. It is much to be lamented that the water could not be taken from the river above the numerous Dye-Houses erected upon it, as it is not probable that any purification it afterwards receives completely frees it from the contamination of so many pernicious ingredients, and this circumstance has made spring water generally preferred for culinary purposes, though it is not so salutary to the human constitution as water which has been exposed to the action of the sun.

LEEDS AND LIVERPOOL CANAL, which was intended to connect the Eastern and the Western Seas, was projected and surveyed by Mr. Longbotham, in the year 1767, who laid his surveys before various public meetings, at which they were approved, and after being again surveyed by the celebrated Mr. Brindley, the plan was adopted, and an Act being obtained, this arduous undertaking was begun in the year 1770! The whole length of the Canal from Leeds to Liverpool is 107 miles. The fall from the central level is on the Lancashire side 552 feet; on the Yorkshire 446 feet.

The course of the Canal as first laid down, after making a large circuit round Ormskirk, crosses the River Douglas, and proceeding North Easterly, runs for some miles parallel and near to the Ribble, then follows the course of the Lancashire Calder, which it crosses and re-crosses, till it arrives at its head in the great Bason of Fouridge, near Pendle-Hill and the town of Colne: Thence declining on the Leeds side, it runs North Eastward, to the banks of the Aire, near Gargrave, which river it crosses, and afterwards closely accompanies it in its whole course to Leeds, passing the towns of Skipton and Bingley. Of the two side branches, that to Wigan is upwards of seven miles and a half, with a fall of 36 feet; that to Bradford is little more than three miles, with a fall of 87 feet.

By an Act passed in 1783, liberty was obtained by the Proprietors to purchase the Douglas River Navigation; and by another Act in 1790, a power was given to raise an additional sum of money, and also to make a variation in the course of the Canal; and a still more considerable variation was permitted by an Act passed in May, 1794. By this a deviation begins from Barrowford to the township of Whalley; and taking a more southern line than the former, passes through Burnley, Ackrington, Blackburn, Chorley, Adlington, Blackrod, West-Houghton, Ince, and so to Wigan. This line will form a longer and more

circuitous course, but will go through the centre of a country full of manufactures, and abounding in coal. Leeds has not only a communication with Liverpool and Hull, but also by the aid of various other branches of the inland Navigation, has a communication with the rivers Mersey, Dee, Ribble, Ouse, Trent, Derwent, Severn, Humber, Thames, Avon, &c. extending several hundred miles in the counties of Lincoln, Nottingham, Lancaster, Westmoreland, Chester, Stafford, &c.

The whole line to Liverpool is not quite finished, but there are now only a few miles to cut; the most difficult and expensive part is accomplished, that of boring a long tunnel through the solid rock. There is also an entire communication by water between Leeds and Liverpool, though the medium of the Aire and Calder Rivers, and the Huddersfield and Rochdale Canals; but we believe goods are not frequently sent by that rout, on account of the delay that would occur from the circuitous course, especially as there would frequently be a necessity of removing goods from one vessel to another, by which means they are frequently delayed, greatly exposed to pillage, and in danger of being lost.



**AIR, WATER, SOIL, POPULATION, &c.**

LEEDS is situated on a considerably rising ground, which ascends to the North West, and terminates at the Aire to the South; but the descent, though sufficient to carry off the water with celerity, is not unpleasantly great.

The Westerly Winds are the most prevalent, and drive the columns of smoke which arise from our numerous manufactories to the Eastern parts of the town, and where from the lowness of the ground it is apt to make a lodgment\*; on this account the West end of the town is preferred by those whose business and circumstances enable them to make a selection. It is to be wished, that some efficacious method of destroying the smoke of our different manufactories could be discovered, and that every proprietor of Steam Engines, Dye-Houses, &c. was under a legal obligation to adopt it.

The WATER of the town is more contaminated by our manufactories than even the atmosphere; the originally pure and salutary stream of the Aire, before it reaches here, becomes impregnated with such a variety of foreign substances, as almost to render it improper for culinary pur-

\* This observation is only applicable to the town itself, the Eastern vicinity being considerably higher than the Western.

poses, which is the more to be regretted, as the Spring Water of the greatest part of the town is of a hard and calcareous nature: to this, however, there are some exceptions; in particular, there is a copious spring of soft and pure Water at the bottom of Lady-Lane; there is also a Spring at Holbeck, which though slightly sulphurous is peculiarly fit for culinary purposes, as it entirely loses its peculiar taste by a short exposure to the air.

The SOIL of the Parish of Leeds is a coarse strong clay, sometimes covering a finer stratum, which is made into an inferior kind of earthenware, by the Potteries in the neighbourhood. That part of the parish which is South of the Aire abounds in Coal, the cheapness of which contributes materially to the comfort of the poor. Leeds is principally supplied with coals from the Collieries of C. J. Brandling, Esq. at Middleton; they are conveyed in waggons on a Iron Railway, to the Staith, in Hunslet-Lane, from which they are sent to every part of the town, at a rate that is precisely fixed, and from which no deviation is allowed. Each person who wishes to have Coals sent from the Staith has his name and place of abode, and the quantity of Coals entered into a book; and which orders are executed in rotation; a regulation which prevents all complaints of partiality. Coals are

# POPULATION OF LEEDS IN 1801.

POPULATION OF LEEDS IN 1801.									
Division.	HOUSES.			PERSONS, Including Children.		Total.	OCCUPATION		
	Inhabited.	Families.	Uninhabited	Males.	Females.		Agriculture.	Trade.	Neither.
North-East,	1902	2028	50	4081	4466	8547	34	3118	5395
East, - -	1156	1339	58	2387	2737	5124	48	2335	2741
North-West,	892	909	18	1892	2166	4058	37	1264	2757
Kirkgate, -	852	886	14	1836	1967	3803	5	1194	1604
Upper, - -	748	808	21	1639	1915	3554	6	1250	2298
South, - -	633	633	16	1383	1524	2907	1	1075	1834
Mill-Hill, -	511	519	11	1161	1515	2676		906	1776
Total,	6694	7122	188	14379	16290	30689	131	11142	18396

In 1801, it appears that the number of Inhabitants was 30,669, to which if we add one-tenth for the increase since that period, it will be 33,736.

To the last Statement we shall subjoin a list of the Births, Marriages, and Burials, in the Township of Leeds, in each year, from 1764 to 1804, both inclusive. These documents furnish all the information upon this part of our subject which can be at all interesting.

Year.	Births.	Mar.	Bur.	Year.	Births.	Mar.	Bur.
1764	553	285	445	1785	860	452	727
1765	576	296	459	1786	940	460	674
1766	584	318	533	1787	895	445	712
1767	557	354	639	1788	933	473	784
1768	552	338	560	1789	993	465	671
1769	637	310	478	1790	1139	476	969
1770	621	327	587	1791	1142	484	688
1771	689	339	533	1792	1171	507	922
1772	650	315	544	1793	1190	556	1129
1773	799	343	660	1794	1088	501	768
1774	630	289	478	1795	1112	494	699
1775	705	325	574	1796	1164	532	875
1776	712	392	475	1797	1219	567	835
1777	710	370	634	1798	1237	528	729
1778	781	367	656	1799	1124	614	761
1779	709	412	686	1800	1222	509	962
1780	742	423	591	1801	1173	473	1142
1781	738	438	673	1802	1412	647	899
1782	741	390	600	1803	1509	682	1364
1783	725	421	682	1804	1318	571	671
1784	830	433	608				

The very great decrease of burials in the year 1804 is extraordinary, and can only be accounted for by the introduction of the cow-pox, which has greatly lessened the ravages of the small-pox, and

thereby contributed in a very great degree to this pleasing reduction in the number of deaths; we trust, a few years will completely banish every prejudice against this invaluable discovery, and remove the small-pox from the number of human ills.

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### LITERARY AND EMINENT CHARACTERS.

It does not occur to us that Leeds has produced any person of eminent literary fame, though it has always had its due share of men respectable for talents and learning, and who probably, had they chosen to have instructed or amused the public from the press, might have attained considerable celebrity. Mr. MILNER, late Vicar of Hull, a very popular preacher, and who was esteemed a pillar in the cause of Orthodoxy, was a native of Leeds, and received his education at the Grammar School, in this town.

Mr. THORESBY was a man of considerable learning, and a great proficient in Antiquarian researches; his History of Leeds bears ample testimony to his unwearied assiduity in this branch of literature. He also published in octavo, an History of the Parish Church, and its various Ministers and Benefactors. These works have given him such a local interest as renders this notice at least excuseable.

Many of the Clergy of Leeds have occasionally published detached Sermons, or a short Essay; but none of them any work which would render it decorous to introduce their names. We believe a volume of Sermons on the Social Duties, published by the Rev. Mr. WOOD, of Mill-Hill Chapel, and another volume of Miscellaneous Sermons, published by the Rev. Mr. BOWDEN, of Call-Lane Chapel, are the only exceptions to this remark.

A Theological Work from a Layman, Mr. MATTHEW TALBOT, entitled 'An Analysis of the Bible,' was published in 1800, and is a work which displays an uncommon degree of perseverance and application; it does not fall within the limits of the Guide to enter into any details of the plan of this elaborate work, which must prove an invaluable acquisition to those preachers who make frequent references to the Scriptures.

The observation with which we begun this article will not apply, if we take rather a wider range than the immediate vicinity of the town; for a man more celebrated as a Philosopher and a Theologian, this age has not produced, than Dr. PRIESTLEY, who was born at Field-Head, in the Parish of Birstal, in the neighbourhood of Leeds. He received the principal part of his classical education at the Free School of Batley,

and was placed about the year 1749, under the care of the Rev. Dr. ASHWORTH, at Daventry, in Northamptonshire, where he went through a complete course of preparatory studies for the Ministry among the Protestant Dissenters. His first settlement was with a small congregation at Needham-Market, in Suffolk. He was next fixed at Nantwich, in Cheshire, where he continued till he was invited to become one of the tutors in the Presbyterian Academy at Warrington. In the year 1767, he was chosen to be Minister of the Unitarian Congregation, at the Mill-Hill Chapel, (35) in which situation he published his 'Institutes of Natural and Revealed Religion.' In 1773, he formed a connection with the late Marquis of Lansdowne, then Earl of Shelbourn, nominally as his Librarian; but in fact, rather as a literary companion, and resided chiefly at Calne, in Wiltshire, the country seat of that nobleman; a situation which promised him greater advantages in his philosophical pursuits. In 1780, he accepted the pastoral office, at the New Meeting, Birmingham: what compelled him to leave that place in 1791, is too well known, and will be long remembered, to the disgrace of those who either took an active part or passively acquiesced in it. In the latter end of the same year, he succeeded his deceased friend Dr. PRICE, at the New Meeting, at Hackney, near London; and in 1794, he quitted England, to end his days in the back

settlements of the United States of America. This learned man died on the 6th of February, 1804, at Northumberland, Pennsylvania; and the manner of his meeting that last awful event, shewed the efficacy of the Christian Religion in giving support to the mind, when every other stay is withdrawn. On the number and extent of his Philosophical and Theological Writings it is unnecessary to dwell, or to enumerate the great additions he made to the History of Natural Philosophy.

The next character whose celebrity requires a brief sketch, is the Builder of Eddystone Light-House, and who lived in the immediate neighbourhood of Leeds: Mr. JOHN SMEATON was born at Austhorp, where his family have resided ever since; the subject of this present piece was distinguished, when a mere child, by the strength of his understanding, and the originality of his genius; his toys sufficiently marked the bent of his mind; having one day attended some men who were fixing a pump in the neighbourhood, he possessed himself of a piece of bored pipe, with which he made a pump that raised water: this anecdote occurred while he was in petticoats.

As he advanced in years, his mechanical genius begun to develope itself still more, and he amused himself in working in wood, ivory, and metals. He made a lathe, by which he cut a perpetual screw in brass; a thing little known



at that day. At the age of eighteen, he had acquired an extensive set of tools, and without any assistance from a master, attained the art of working in most of the mechanical trades. Mr. Smeaton's father was an attorney, and was desirous to bring his son up to the same profession; but upon a strong representation that it did not suit the bent of his genius, he suffered him to chuse his own profession.

In 1753, Mr. Smeaton was elected Member of the Royal Society; the number of papers published in their transactions, will shew the universality of his genius and knowledge. In 1759, he was honoured by an unanimous vote of their Gold Medal, for his paper intitled 'An Experimental Inquiry concerning the natural powers of water and wind to turn Mills, and other Machines depending on a circular motion.'

But the work for which he is most celebrated is the erection of Eddystone Light-House. In December 1755 the Light-House was burnt down, and the proprietors being desirous of re-building it in the most substantial manner, inquired of the President of the Royal Society (Earl of Macclesfield) to recommend the most proper person to re-build it; he named Mr. Smeaton, who undertook the work, and completed it in the Summer of 1759: Of the erection of this celebrated Light-House, he published an ample description in quarto, in 1791, and which was so well received

by the public, that a second edition has since come out under the revision of his friend Mr. AUBERT, F. R. S. and Governor of the London Assurance Corporation.

Though Mr. Smeaton gained infinite credit by his masterly erection of the Light-House, at Eddystone, he did not very soon get into full business, as a civil engineer; but in 1775, he had so much business, that he wished to resign the office of Receiver to the Derwent-Water Estate, to which he had been appointed by the Board of the Greenwich Hospital; but upon the intreaties of his friends, consented to retain it two years longer. About this time, he undertook to make the River Calder navigable, a work of great difficulty, and requiring the exercise of great skill and judgment, on account of the very impetuous floods in that river: Mr. Smeaton also planned and attended the execution of the great Canal in Scotland.

On the opening of the great Arch at London Bridge, the excavation round and under the sterlings was so considerable, that the Bridge was thought to be in great danger of falling: Mr. Smeaton was then in this county, and was sent for by express; he arrived with the utmost dispatch, and immediately applied himself to examine it as minutely as he could; and the committee being called together, adopted his advice, which was to purchase the stones that had been

taken from the middle pier, and to throw them into the river to guard the sterlings; and so great was their apprehension of the Bridge falling, that on that very day the stones were purchased, horses, carts and barges were got ready, and they began the work on Sunday morning: by this means it was secured till more effectual methods could be taken.

Mr. Smeaton had frequent occasion to attend in Parliament; and here his strength of judgment and perspicuity of expression were advantageously displayed, as he seldom failed to obtain the sanction of the Legislative authority for the measure he supported.

About the year 1785, his health began to be visibly impaired, when he devoted himself to publish an account of his works, which appeared to be the first wish of his heart; but he only got his account of the Eddystone Light-House completed. In 1792, the world was deprived of this valuable member; he was struck with a paralytic stroke on the 16th of September, and died the 28th of October following. Mr. Smeaton was as estimable for his social and domestic virtues as for his professional talents, and will be long remembered with affectionate esteem.

There is a most beautiful and elegant marble monument in the choir of Whitkirk Church, on which is exhibited the Light-House braving the tumultuous swelling of the indignant ocean.

**Mr. POWELL**, the celebrated pedestrian, was born at Horsforth, near this town: the celerity with which he accomplished many long journeys, greatly excited the attention of the public; to enter into a detail of them at this distance of time, would not be gratifying to many of our readers, we shall therefore briefly state the most remarkable of them. In 1773, he engaged to go on foot from London to York, and back again, in six days, which he accomplished in five days and eighteen hours. He afterwards performed the same journey in 1792 in five days fifteen hours and fifteen minutes, a distance of 402 miles. The fatigue occasioned by this extraordinary exertion, is supposed to have materially injured his health.

**Mr. Powell** in his person was rather tall, and of a thin habit of body; he was very abstemious in his diet, seldom when upon a journey eating any animal food; nor was he more indulgent with respect to sleep, never allowing himself more than five hours sleep out of twenty-four. He died in London, and was interred in the burying ground of St. Faith, St. Paul's, London.

**Mr. BENJAMIN WILSON**, an eminent painter, was a native of Leeds; he flourished about the year 1780, and was particularly distinguished for his etchings in imitation of Rembrandt, which are said to have completely deceived the connoisseurs of that day. The celebrated painting of

the raising of Jairus' Daughter, valued at 500*l.* is an honourable proof both of his abilities as an artist, and of his generosity; it is now in the Board-Room of the General Infirmary.

General GUEST, who commanded the King's troops at Edinburgh during the Rebellion in 1745, was a native of this town, the son of a cloth-dresser, which business he himself laboured at in the early part of his life. Of the circumstances which produced his elevation, there are at present no trace, at least none to which we have access. After the army of CHARLES STUART had taken possession of the town of Edinburgh, Gen. Guest made use of some finesse to engage the rebel army in a siege of the Castle, and thus prevented them from marching directly into England; with this view after the battle of Preston, he wrote four or five letters addressed to the Duke of Newcastle, Secretary of State, stating that there was but a small stock of provisions in the Castle of Edinburgh, that he would be obliged to surrender immediately; these letters fell, as it was designed they should, into the hands of the rebels, and had the desired effect; and there is no doubt that his judicious defence of the Castle contributed to retard in a very considerable degree the progress of the arms of Stuart, and thereby rendered an essential service to his country.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Under this head we have nothing that is particularly interesting to communicate ; for excepting those arts which have an immediate reference to Commerce and Manufactures, the town of Leeds has not been eminently disposed to foster the production of art and genius, or to aid and encourage the researches of the philosopher. No societies of a literary or philosophical nature exist, to afford the means of concentrating and bringing before the public eye, the discoveries or improvements made by individuals, and for the rational employment of the leisure of young men, who might be inspired by such an institution with a taste for literary refinement, instead of cultivating vicious habits.

An attempt was made in the year 1793, with a partial degree of success, to establish a society for the discussion of literary and moral subjects ; but the temper of the times was so adverse to every thing which suggested the idea of debate, that the number of its members was never considerable, and after being continued for several years, with various success, was entirely given up.

Among the Arts which have contributed to the welfare of mankind, that of Printing is entitled to an honourable pre-eminence, and every establishment of it is worthy of a certain degree of attention.

There are in this town four Printing Offices, at two of which respectable weekly papers are published. The Leeds Intelligencer is printed by Mr. GRIFFITH WRIGHT, jun. at the New-Street End, and was first established by Mr. GRIFFITH WRIGHT, grandfather to the present proprietor, in the year 1754 ; it is published on a Monday morning.

The Leeds Mercury is printed by Mr. EDWARD BAINES, Mercury-Court, Briggate, and was first established by Mr. JAMES LISTER, in the year 1726 ; after being discontinued for some time, it was revived in the year 1767, by Mr. BOWLING ; he conducted it for twenty-seven years, and was succeeded by Messrs. BINNS and BROWN, who disposed of it to the present Proprietor. The day of its publication was originally on Tuesday, or rather on Monday ; for though it was dated Tuesday, it was always distributed on Monday. But the day of publication was in the year 1792, altered to Saturday, on which day it still continues to be published. This change was attended with considerable advantage both to the interest of the paper, and the comfort of the publisher, as it removed the awkwardness of having two weekly papers in the same town, published on the same day, and also precluded the disagreeable necessity of having constantly to adopt the language of Pope, and say,

‘ Even Sunday is no Sabbath-Day to me.’

An encroachment upon the Sabbath which is unavoidable, when the publication is on the day immediately following.

Though the Leeds Mercury reckoning from the date of its re-establishment, is the junior Leeds paper, yet with respect to its general estimation, and consequent extensive circulation, it will not lose by a comparison with any paper in this extensive county. At this office, several large and valuable works have lately been printed, particularly the whole Works of Dr. WATTS, and Dr. DODDRIDGE; and TALBOT's Analysis of the Bible, quarto; and also during the course of the present year, a Treatise on the Nature and Properties of English Wool, by Mr. LUCOCK, woolstapler, of this town; a work containing much new and original information, and which concentrates into one view all that was before known upon this interesting subject.

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### MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

In ordinary times the title of this chapter would appear superfluous, when applied to a town, which possesses no fortifications; but from the peculiar situation of the country at the period this work was put to press, Government thought it necessary to confide, in a considerable degree, the

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defence of the nation to the voluntary armed associations of the people ; and we trust these associations will be found a sufficient defence, if the enemy after his recent experience of the prowess of the British navy, should again brave its thunder, or have the singular good fortune to elude its vigilance, and land his hosts on our shores. For though the gallant NELSON has fallen, we trust his courage and ardent exertions for his country will be infused into every British bosom, and that England will not in vain expect every man to do his duty.

The present Volunteer Infantry were enrolled in the year 1803 ; their cloaths and military accoutrements, (exclusive of arms, which were furnished by Government) were provided by a very liberal subscription of the inhabitants of the town and parish ; the mention of which renders it proper to observe, that the society of Quakers, who could not consistently with their avowed principles contribute to the raising of a military force, under any circumstances whatever, proved the disinterestedness of their refusal by raising among themselves the large sum of £1400, which they presented to the General Infirmary.

The Volunteer force of the town and parish of Leeds, consists of two battalions of infantry, and two troops of cavalry. The infantry is commanded by Colonel LLOYD, a gentleman universally respected, and by every member of the Volunteer

corps perfectly idolized; indeed the exertions and sacrifices he has made for them, demand and justify every expression of affectionate attachment. The total amount of both battalions is 1400 rank and file, exclusive of officers. With respect to the progress made by the infantry in their military character, we shall content ourselves with inserting the following letter of Brigadier-General HODGSON to Colonel LLOYD, after their return from Doncaster, where they had been on what is somewhat improperly called permanent duty for twenty-one days:

*Doncaster, 21st Oct. 1805.*

#### BRIGADE ORDERS.

‘ Brigadier General HODGSON feels real pleasure in expressing to Lieutenant Colonel LLOYD and the regiment under his command, his perfect satisfaction at their steadiness and good appearance in the field this day. The able manner in which the manœuvres and firings were performed, meets with the full approbation of the Brigadier General.

‘ THO. WILLIAMS, Major of Brigade.’

We feel great satisfaction in having also to state, that the utmost harmony has ever existed, both among the officers and privates of this fine body of men, that they are happily strangers to

the heart-burnings and quarrels, which have in some instances deprived the country of the service of those, on whose exertions it had relied for aid in the hour of danger. This unanimity and harmony we trust will never be impaired or interrupted, and we hope that the only rivalry and emulation which will ever have place among them will be, which shall make the greatest sacrifices for the good of their country.

The cavalry, which consists of two troops, are commanded by Captain RHODES, and are supposed to be in every respect equal to any Volunteer corps in the kingdom; they were originally raised, and are still supported, at the individual expence of the members of the corps.

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### ENVIRONS.

Previous to a description of the more distant Environs of the town, it will be proper slightly to notice its Suburbs, and those Villages, which though within the township, could not with propriety be included in a description of the town.

The NEAR BANK is the most populous part of the suburbs, and almost forms a town of itself; it lies on a high ground, on the North side of the Aize. There are a great number of manufactories in this neighbourhood, the work people of which

compose the principal part of the population of this district.

**CAVALIER-HILL** rises above these habitation or rather, to be more correct, a great part of them are built upon the lower part of it. This hill derives its name from the circumstance of the King's army being encamped here during the civil wars of the ill-fated Charles the First; from its summit there is a fine view of the town.

About half a mile from the Bank is the rural hamlet of **KNOSTROP**, very pleasantly situated near the banks of the Aire; it is remarkable for a very ancient Hall, with turrets like a castle; in the front of the court are two antique stone chairs: it is uncertain at what period the Hall was erected.—Galfridus de Knostrop was witness to a deed dated in the year 1335. Many of the fields near Knostrop bear the names of very ancient proprietors, as Dame Ellen Flats and Paulino Flats, from Paulinus de Leeds, who lived about the year 1207.

**BLACK BANK**, called in the ancient surveys, Gallows Hill, from its being the place of execution, in those wretched times when the great Barons had the power of life and death. There is nothing here which requires observation.

Returning towards Leeds, on the left hand is **MARSH-LANE**, and on the right **BURMANTOFTS**, **QUARRY HILL**, and **MABGATE**, which are

connected with Leeds by a continuity of buildings; the only observation necessary upon them, is, that they are very populous parts of the suburbs, and are almost exclusively inhabited by labouring people.

**SHEEPSCAR** is a small village, not more than half a mile from Leeds; the great number of genteel houses in the neighbourhood, give it a very lively and pleasing appearance. In the present year, a new bridge of extraordinary breadth, has been built over the brook, which runs by this place, and which has its source a little above Addle, and enters the Aire at Leeds.

About half a mile from Sheepscar are a number of houses, distinguished by the name of **BUSLINTHORP**, supposed to be derived from the Saxon word Buyses, their term for Cow-Stall. Almost immediately adjoining to Buslinthorp is **WOODHOUSE CARR**, which is very populous; a great number of clothiers reside here, and the manufacture of woollen cloth is carried on to a considerable extent. At this place is a medicinal spring, that both in taste and effect resembles the sulphur water of Harrogate. Ascending a hill we arrive at **GREAT WOODHOUSE**, which is a large and populous village, about a mile distant from Leeds. Woodhouse, as well as the Carr adjoining, is inhabited chiefly by clothiers. There is no place of public worship in Woodhouse of the established religion; there is how-

ever a chapel belonging to the Methodists; and a free school, where the children of the poor are taught to read and write. Woodhouse-Moor is a piece of uninclosed and uncultivated ground, to which we believe, all the inhabitants of Leeds have a right of common; it is obvious that a right so diffused cannot be of much value to any individual. This waste ground, is however, of considerable utility on several accounts, it furnishes a convenient spot for the training and exercising of our Volunteers; and its open and elevated situation, combined with its nearness to the town, renders it a favourite walk to those who wish to inhale the pure and bracing air at a slight expence of time; it is also well adapted for every species of manly and active amusement, a convenience of considerable moment to those whose general employment is sedentary.

Woodhouse-Moor, as well as the Village and Carr, is said to have derived its name from a Wood Mansion House, which is supposed to have been situated here; to this conjecture it may be objected, that at the period when this house was supposed to have existed, Wood Houses were so very common, that it is improbable any house should have this name as a distinguishing appellation.

Descending towards Leeds, we notice a very elegant and well imagined Turnpike-House, which is built of stone and covered with blue slate, and

which, especially when viewed on the Leeds side in conjunction with an elegant stone house of Mr. Hebblethwaite's, has a very pleasing effect; we should rejoice to see a similar one erected at Sheepscar-Bar. From Woodhouse-Bar, a very short walk brings us to Cankerwell-Lane, which was included in our survey of the town, and where we shall terminate this slight delineation of its suburbs.

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## DESCRIPTION

OF THE

## VILLAGES.

In our perambulation through the town we begun at its Western limit, and in our present more extended tour through the numerous Villages which environ it, we shall adopt the same rule. In this glance, for it can be called nothing more, we shall not confine ourselves within its parochial limits, nor yet its manorial rights, but shall without scruple transgress them both, whenever an adequate motive for so doing presents itself; but that our readers may not suppose that we shall exceed all bounds, we promise that our excursions shall be confined within eight miles of our head quarters.

## KIRKSTALL

Is situated upon the river Aire, about three miles distant from Leeds, and owes its celebrity to its relationship to the abbey; but as we propose hereafter to examine these celebrated ruins with minuteness, and also to give a sketch of its history, we shall at present content ourselves with observing, that the romantic situation of these venerable remains of Gothic architecture, renders this village the resort, not only of all those who have a taste for the sublime and beautiful; but also of all who affect to have any pretensions to it. The abbey was of the Cistercian order, which was exempted from the payment of tythes, because the erections of this order were in such places as had not before been tilled, as woods and waste grounds, and which by the industry of this religious order were brought into a high state of cultivation; from this circumstance, it is probable, that Kirkstall, previous to the erection of the abbey, was merely a forest, inhabited only by a few Anchorites. At present it is a very respectable village, and the seat of part of our woollen manufacture.

In the wood, about a mile from the abbey, is a forge for the manufactory of wrought iron, belonging to Messrs. Butler and Beecroft.— There are also several corn and felling mills in its immediate vicinity. A bridge at Kirkstall



crosses the Aire, on the West side of which are several ancient works, but from the dilapidations of time it is scarcely possible to ascertain their origin, they have been conjectured to be Danish works. On the East side of Kirkstall is a road, which conducts us to Horsforth, and from which it is distant about three miles.

### HORSFORTH

Is a large, well-built and very pleasant village, situate between Otley and Leeds, about five miles from the latter place, in the parish of Guiseley, and is separated from that of Leeds by a small rivulet, called the Old Mill Beck. The ancient name of this village, as appears from Kirby's Inquest, was Hereford. A very handsome chapel has been erected for the celebration of public worship according to the rites of the established church.

The manufactory of woollen cloth is carried on to a considerable extent in this village, which is the residence of a great number of respectable clothiers, and of many others in the middle and higher ranks of life. In the immediate vicinity of Horsforth are several gentlemen's seats, among others, the residence of Colonel LLOYD, Commander of the Leeds Volunteer Infantry.

### COOKRIDGE.

This village was formerly part of the possessions belonging to Kirkstall abbey, to which it

was given during the time of their first Abbot Alexander, and continued to the last. Upon the dissolution of the monastery, it was granted by Henry the Eighth to a gentleman of the King's household, under the yearly rent of £51 14 8. King Edward the Sixth gave it by letters patent to Archbishop Cranmer, the famous protestant, martyr to the cruel zeal of a gloomy bigot.

The Roman rig or viacinalis, from the lately discovered station near Addle mill, passes through this village. Several Roman monuments and coins have been discovered here, particularly in 1768, when a considerable number of the latter was found.

### ADDLE

Is an inconsiderable place, and were it not for its church and Roman antiquities, we should have passed it over without notice.

The church is built of small square stones like the Roman wall, and multangular tower at York, and is evidently of great antiquity; within the church are some rude carvings in stone, intended to represent some legend, or portion of sacred history; and which indicate the rude state of the arts at the period they were executed. The vestiges of the Roman tower upon the moor, near Addle mill, was discovered by a tenant of Mr. Arthington's, who in plowing was obstruct-

ed by a great quantity of stone immediately below the surface of the earth, in digging it up he discovered the foundations of houses and the pavings of streets. At a little distance is a Roman camp, it is above four chains broad and five long, surrounded with a single vallum, which from the top of the aggar to the bottom of the trench is 22 feet deep. This station appears to have been of considerable importance, if we may judge from the great number of fragments of statues, pillars, aqueducts, inscriptions, &c. A few years since an entire statue of a Roman officer was dug up, but was destroyed from some superstitious conceit of the labourers who found it.

### MEANWOOD

Is a small village, situated about a mile from Addle, nearer to Leeds. JOHN BECKETT, Esq. one of the aldermen of the borough of Leeds, resides here. Near this place is a conspicuous eminence or cliff, called TUNNEL-HAW HILL, on which is erected a rude arch; but it is upon too small a scale to commemorate the illustrious ALFRED, which from an inscription we are informed was the professed design of the erection.

### HEADINGLEY

Is about two miles from Meanwood, and the same distance from Leeds. It is remarkable for

a large and very ancient Oak, at which the shire meetings were formerly held, from which it derived the name of 'Shire Oak,' and on which account this district is called the 'Wapentake of Skyrack.' The term Wapentake, which signifies a division, originated in a custom distinctly mentioned in the laws of Edward the Confessor, by which, when a person was invested with the government of any district, he was met by appointment by the chief men, to whom he held forth his spear, which they touched with theirs, and by this joining of arms was significantly expressed their union in one common cause and interest; and thus from wæpun, weapon, and tac, a touch, these governments or districts were called wapentakes.

The value of this Village was estimated by Edward the Confessor at 40s. but by singular good fortune, it not only escaped the ruin and devastation which the ruthless Norman invader spread through the country, but appears to have even greatly improved, as it was estimated at £4 in the survey made by order of this conqueror.

About the beginning of the sixteenth century a chapel of ease was erected here, to the great convenience of the inhabitants; the ground was given by the celebrated Sir JOHN SAVILLE, the first honorary Alderman of the borough of Leeds. The greatest part of this Village is the property of the Earl of Cardigan.

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### POTTER-NEWTON AND CHAPEL-ALLERTON.

We class these two Villages together, because in conversation they are frequently spoken of as one, under the name of Chapel-Town; the common lately belonging to Potter-Newton, might vie in beauty of appearance with the finest lawn, but it is now entirely inclosed. Chapel-Allerton is one of the pleasantest Villages in the vicinity of Leeds, and is on account of its pleasant situation and salubrious air, the occasional or permanent residence of many of our merchants and people of fortune. The chapel is a very ancient and venerable fabric, but the time of its erection is involved in some uncertainty. There is also, a very commodious chapel, lately built by the Methodists, and which is in general, well attended. Chapel-Allerton, though so near Leeds, is entirely out of the clothing district, as we believe there is scarcely a single manufacturer of cloth to be found in the whole Village.

### ALLERTON-GLEDHOW.

Gleda, in the Saxon language, signified burning coals; and that such a burning was here, appears from the heaps of slag yet remaining, and no doubt this is the true origin of the name GLEDHOW, or 'the hill where coals are burnt;'

and we are informed that this name is to be found in very old writings.

### ALLERTON-GRANGE.

This place formerly belonged to the Abbot and Convent of Kirkstall; and is supposed to have been given to them in the time of their first Abbot, Alexander. The family of the Killingbecks were tenants to it before the dissolution of the house, and afterwards became proprietors of it.

### MOOR-ALLERTON, OR MOOR-TOWN.

Is situated upon Black-Moor, so called because it is black and mountainous, with crags, &c. The parish of Leeds is here bounded by that of Harewood. Upon Black-Moor are two stones, known by the name of meer-stones, inscribed J. C. for Sir John Cutler, of Harewood; a person of some celebrity from his numerous charitable donations, and the endowments of churches, &c. He died in the year 1693.

At Moor-Allerton were the seats of two families of the Marshalls, distinguished in the parish registers, by the upper and lower house. Of this family was John Marshall, the last who died Abbot of Kirkstall; that house being surrendered into the King's hands by his successor, John Ripley.

**STREET-LANE.**

Upon these Moors are the remains of Roman and Saxon antiquities, which evince that these parts were known and frequented by both those nations successively. There are yet visible remains of a Roman road passing through Street-Lane, by Haw-Caster to Addle, (where the vestiges of a Roman tower, funeral monuments, &c. were some years since discovered,) and thence by Cookridge over the moors to Ilkley, a known Roman station.

**HAW-CASTER-RIGG.**

The name of this place being derived from the Latin, we may expect to find some remains of Roman works; accordingly there appears to have been discovered the vestiges of a Roman pottery; and the name of Potter-Newton, which is not far distant, is supposed to have derived its origin from the ashes which were carried there; this supposition is the more probable as there is no memorial, nor any tradition of a pottery in late ages, and there are writings, above four hundred years old, wherein the name of the place in question is so called.

**HUNSLET.**

This very populous and extensive Village, is situated on the South side of the Aire, a little more

than a mile from Leeds. Of the ancient history of this flourishing neighbourhood there are not many documents now remaining: King William the First gave it, among other places, to Roger of Montgomery Earl of Arundel and Shrewsbury. In the 5th of Henry IV. Richard Gascoigne, brother to the celebrated Judge of that name, purchased a considerable estate at Hunslet of Hugh de Hay: Sir Thomas Nevil, of Liversedge, married the heiress of Gascoigne, and in her right became possessed of this lordship; in this family it continued till the 12th of Elizabeth, when Sir John Nevil being accused of joining in the rebellion with the Earl of Westmoreland, the estate was confiscated, and given by the Queen to Sir Richard Carey. It was settled upon his second son, Sir Philip Carey, who with John Carey, Esq. his son and heir, sold all the lands, mills and wastes to the inhabitants.

The chapel, which was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, was built in the year 1636. The Rev. T. Hawksworth was the first curate of this chapel and one of the ejected ministers; upon the Five Mile Act he retired to Alverthorpe-Hall, near Wakefield, where he died Nov. 23, 1667. A little to the East of the chapel are the remains of an ancient fabric, which seems to have been of considerable note by the moat or trench that has surrounded it.



After stating that Hunslet is situated in the midst of collieries, and upon the banks of the Aire, and also in the neighbourhood of the extensive potteries of HARTLEY and Co. it almost seems superfluous to add, that it abounds with manufacturing establishments, and that its population is numerous; and though it does not aspire to the rank of a market town, but is content to be a satellite to Leeds, yet in real importance it is superior to most market towns in the kingdom.

About half a mile distant from Hunslet is WOODHOUSE-HILL, an inconsiderable hamlet, and which may with propriety be considered as an appendage to Hunslet; its chief inhabitants are clothiers and colliers.

### HOLBECK.

The observation we made as to the manufactures and population of Hunslet, may be applied to this Village; but in other respects it is much inferior to it. Its situation is low, its buildings indifferent, and its streets or lanes abominably dirty; and those who recollect the observation we made as to the influence the system of large manufactories had on the female character, will hardly need to be informed, that the interior of many of the houses are probably not much better, in point of cleanliness, than the public roads.

This Village receives its name from the low-

ness of its situation and a beck, formed by the junction of several inconsiderable streams.

The chapel, which in the last century has undergone a repair nearly equal to being rebuilt, is very ancient. In a bull granted by the Pope to Ralph Paganel, who lived in the reign of William the Norman; it is mentioned as being given by the said Ralph Paganel to the Priory of the Holy Trinity at York—the date 1089. There was also a chantry here, valued, in the 37th of Henry the Eighth, at £4 per annum.

### ARMLEY

Is situated on the South side of the Aire, about two miles West of Leeds; its population, which is numerous, consists almost entirely of persons concerned in the clothing business. The chapel at Armley, was built in the time of King Charles the First, about the year 1630. Ralph Hopton gave the ground where it stands, but died before it was finished; Sir Miles Stappleton confirmed the grant, and added to it several parcels of common, which were inclosed, towards the maintenance of the minister. Near Armley is Giant's Hill: this singular name is derived from a tradition of some noted giant having thrown a huge stone from this Hill into Burley-Lane. Those who doubt this wonderful event, may be shewn the identical marks of the Giant's fingers upon it. It is probable that this was a Danish fortifica-

tion; the circular camp has been 20 poles round, and the square below above 30; the rampart is yet 18 or 20 feet high. It is not unlikely that the name Armley has been given to the Village from this circumstance.

### WORTLEY.

At a short distance from Armley, is Wortley, which is divided into two districts, High and Low Wortley; the situation of the former is high and commanding. The chapel is a modern and handsome structure, which its situation exhibits to great advantage.

At this place is a vein of clay which is used in the potteries in the neighbourhood for the coarser kind of earthenware, and also for the making of tobacco pipes. This Village is chiefly inhabited by clothiers, and is said to have derived its name from the great number of worts or herbs which abound here.

### FARNLEY,

The neighbouring Village, also derives its name from the productions of its soil, great quantities of fern growing in the neighbourhood. The celebrated Sir William Harrington resided here; and obtained leave to found a chantry, for a priest to celebrate divine service daily, and which is supposed to have stood on the scite of the present chapel, which is a neat stone building.

Farnley-Hall was erected, as appears from an inscription in the front, in the year 1586, by Sir William Denby, but is now in the possession of EDWARD ARMITAGE, Esq. This lordship anciently belonged to Sir John Danville, and passed by marriage into the family of the NEVILLE'S.

### PUDSEY

Is a very populous Village, almost exclusively inhabited by persons connected with the woollen manufactory, in other respects it does not merit any particular observations.

### FULNECK

Is situated near Pudsey, and is the establishment of the Moravian Brethren, which, from its connection with this sect, merits a short detail. The present buildings were erected in the year 1748, by a number of German Moravian Brethren, and form a terrace of considerable length, commanding a very fine prospect. The establishment consists of a chapel and hall, school and workshops, and also two large halls appropriated for the accommodation of the residents, consisting of unmarried persons of that persuasion of both sexes, and who are kept separate from each other with a peculiar degree of exactness. These buildings, with the houses for separate families, form a considerable Village, all the apartments of which have an air of comfort and

cleanliness. Here is every variety of handicraft trade, connected with the comfort and convenience of life. The single women are famous for their skill in working muslins with the needle and tambour.

Their burying ground is laid out with exquisite taste, and kept in the most scrupulous order; but even in death the sexes are not allowed to intermingle—the husband and the wife, the brother and sister, the mother and son, are not permitted to repose in the same tomb: this separation may appear very remarkable, though it ought not in the least to diminish a due respect for the unquestionable virtues of this worthy and peaceable society.

This is considered as their principal Establishment, in the United Kingdom, and is the residence of their Bishop, who is appointed at the meeting of a Synod on the Continent, and regularly ordained to preside over all the Congregations in Great-Britain.

### BRAMLEY

Is the most Western of the Villages in the parish of Leeds, and which would have been more regularly noticed immediately before Kirkstall; it is of moderate extent, the numerous population of which in general find ample employment in the various branches of the clothing business. This Village is supposed to have de-

derived its name from a person called Brame, but this supposition is probably no more than a vague conjecture.

On our return to Leeds, omitting Kirkstall, which we before noticed, we arrive at BURLEY, the situation of which is pleasant, approaching the picturesque; it is situate on the old West road, about two miles from Leeds. We believe the greatest part of this Village is the property of the Earl of Cardigan. Its population is not great. Several very handsome houses have been lately erected here.

### OSMONTHORP

Is about a mile distant from Leeds, in an Eastern direction, and is reputed to have been the *Villa Regia* or Royal Residence in the Heptarchy: a relict of considerable antiquity was taken from the old hall, when it was demolished in the civil wars, and is to be seen in one of the windows of the present fabric; it represents a King with a very antique crown and sword, and an escutcheon of three crowns, the arms of the kingdom of the East Angles, where Edwin was relieved in his exile, and by the assistance of whose monarch, he was restored to his regal sway over the kingdom of Northumberland. The third king from Edwin was Oswin, who it is supposed was either the founder or finisher of the regal seat which was erected here.

### HALTON

Is a very considerable Village, rather more than two miles from Leeds, but it is out of the manufacturing district. It is supposed to have derived its name from the circumstance of its being the place where the altar was preserved, when the King's palace, and the church of Al-manbury, were destroyed by the pagan invaders. The following notices of contributors to the priory of Bolton, in Craven, occur in Burton's Eccles. History of Yorkshire: Alice de Rumley gave an annuity of 8s. out of lands at Halton, held by Haldred son of Cliburne; Swaine, son of Edwin the priest, gave an oxgang of land to Nostel priory, in the deanry of Pontefract; John de Eyvile — claimed three carricates, and two oxgangs of land of his fee in the township of Halton, and also gave five oxgangs more with lofts, which Dionisia, his mother, bought of William Fitz William, to Rievaux Abbey in the arch-deanconry of Cleveland.

### WHITKIRK

Is a small, but ancient Village, about four miles from Leeds, its church, which is built of stone, is of the Gothic order of architecture, and contains many very ancient monuments, and some very elegant modern ones; among others is one to the memory of Mr. Smeaton, the builder

of Eddystone Light-House, the design of which is very happily imagined. Near this place is **TEMPLE NEWSOME**, formerly the seat of the Preceptory belonging to the Knights Templars, but now the residence of the Rt. Hon. Viscountess **IRWIN**; the mansion house is built of brick, and is one of the most magnificent houses built with that material in the kingdom. The grounds are very extensive, and if not exactly laid out in the present taste, have an air of grandeur, not to be found in the modern system; many of the houses at Leeds, were formerly part of the possessions of the Knights Templars, and upon the dissolution of that order, were given to the order of St. John of Jerusalem; from which circumstance they became free of the custom of grinding their corn at the King's mills.

The following extract, will perhaps, in this place be a sufficiently detailed account of this religious order:

'The Order of Knights Templars was instituted at Jerusalem about the year 1118. Some religious gentlemen put themselves under the government of the patriarch of Jerusalem, renounced property, made the vow of celibacy and obedience, and lived like canons regular. King Baldwin assigned them an apartment in his palace. They had likewise lands given them by the king, the patriarch, and the nobility, for their main-



tenance. At first there were but nine of this order, and the two principal persons were Hugo de Paganis and Geoffry of St. Omers. About nine years after their institution, a rule was drawn up for them, and a white habit assigned them, by Pope Honorius II.

‘ About twenty years afterwards, in the pope-dom of Eugenius III. they had red crosses sewed upon their cloaks as a mark of distinction; and in a short time they were increased to about 300 in their convent at Jerusalem. They took the name of Knights Templars, because their first house stood near the temple dedicated to our Saviour at Jerusalem. This order, after having performed many great exploits against the infidels, became rich and powerful all over Europe; but the Knights, abusing their wealth and credit, fell into great disorders and irregularities. Many crimes and enormities being alledged against them, they were persecuted in France, Italy and Spain; and at last the Pope, by his bull of the 22d of May, 1312, given in the council of Vienna, pronounced the extinction of the order of Templars, and united their estates to the order of St. John of Jerusalem.

‘ The circumstance which first led to the overthrow of the order of the Templars, was a disgust taken with some of the leaders of the order, by Philip the Fair, of France, from some opposition made by them against his tyranny. The grand

master, Jaques de Molay, and more than a hundred Knights, having been convicted of impiety, magic, effeminacy, &c. on the slightest and most contradictory evidence, were most cruelly burnt alive, every individual of them, with their last breath denying the infamous charges brought against them.

‘The accusations brought against them were either too horrid or too foolish to relate. One was, that the devil, in the shape of a goat, received from the Knights a strange and ridiculous species of adoration; another, that a large gilt head was one of their idols: the ceremonies too, at the admission into their order, were described as being equally absurd and more detestable; no Monarch throughout Europe treated the Knights so inhumanly as did Philip, but all joined in pillaging their estates.

‘Of the two witnesses, on whose sole testimony so many brave warriors perished with infamy, one was hanged for felony, and the other murdered in a brawl.’

In the year 1544, King Henry VIII. gave the manor of Temple Newsome, to Matthew Earl of Lenox and Lady Margaret his wife; and in the reign of James the First, it was purchased by Sir Arthur Ingram, who pulled down the old hall, and built the present mansion house. The apartment where Lord Darnley (who married the

touches of art. But descriptions even when most accurate, are tame and languid, especially when the subject is rather pleasing than grand; with this conviction we shall spare our readers, as well as ourselves, the weariness of attempting that, which if well executed, would afford little pleasure; and in case of failure, excite disgust.

The limits of this work will not admit of any description of the interior of this princely residence; we shall therefore merely observe, that though no expence has been spared to embellish this mansion, yet ornament has not been resorted to at the expence of utility; and that it is, notwithstanding its grandeur, a comfortable family residence. The house is built of fine hewn stone procured from a neighbouring quarry.

A short distance from the house is the church, a very ancient and venerable pile, surrounded by a grove of trees, whose embowering shade well accords with the solemnity of a place of interment. It is a vicarage, the gift of which is alternately in the town of Harewood, and the Earl of Huntingdon; the Rev. Mr. HALE is the present minister; its annual value is £150 per annum.

In the choir of the church are six altar tombs of white marble, on each of which are placed fine whole length figures of some of the ancient owners of this manor. We shall only notice that of the virtuous Chief Justice Gascoigne, who with

Intrepid fortitude vindicated the honours of the law against the Heir Apparent to the throne. It is almost unnecessary to state, that this judge being insulted on the bench of justice by the then Prince of Wales, afterwards King Henry V. committed the Prince to prison, and which conduct the Prince not only forgave, but highly commended and rewarded; and it is said that this seasonable act of vigour laid the foundation of the future good conduct of this Monarch, who from this event dated his reformation. Round the verge of this tomb on a brass fillet, torn away in the civil wars, was the following inscription,  
' Hic Iaces Willielmus Gascoigne nuper Capitalis  
' Justicas de Banco Henrici nuper Regis Angliæ  
' et Eliza Uxer ejus qui Guidem Willielmus obut  
' die Dominica die Decembois. Anno Domini  
' 1429.'

On the altar rails is carved the initials of the Earl of Strafford's name, the only memorial of the Wentworth family, now remaining at Harewood.

### HAREWOOD CASTLE

Stands on the brow of a very high hill, and commands a most enchanting view of the vale below. The Wharf, whose beautiful mazes may be traced to a considerable distance, gives a softness and beauty to the scene, which to be conceived must be seen. The entrance to this castle, was

defended by a large portcullis, the grove of which is yet very evident; on the front of this portal are three shields of arms cut in the stone, on one of which is the following inscription in Saxon Monastic characters: VAT SAL BE SAL.

Over this gateway is a chamber called the Chapel, wherein formerly were twelve shields of arms, six of which are only now discernable.

There appears to have been two large rooms on the ground floor, divided by a strong partition wall, in the middle of which is an arched doorway, that communicated with both rooms. In the Western wall of the first room, under a magnificent arch, is a tomb: but when erected, or to whose memory, cannot now be ascertained. It seems to have been built with the wall, and may probably contain the remains of the founder of this castle.

"What now avails that o'er the vassal plain,  
His rights and riches which extended wide?  
That honour and her Knights composed his train;  
And chivalry stood marshall'd by his side!

"Tho' to the clouds his castle seemed to climb,  
And frown'd defiance to the desperate foe;  
Tho' deemed invincible, the conqueror time  
Levell'd the fabric, as the founder, low.

"Yet the hoar tyrant, tho' not mov'd to spare,  
Relented when he struck its finish'd pride;  
And partly the rude ravage to repair,  
The tottering towers with twisted ivy ty'd."

In each of the two towers on the South side were four apartments, one above another, and in each were a window and fire-place.

The extent of this castle, when entire, must have been very considerable; as there is near an acre of ground, around the remaining building, covered with half buried walls, and fragments of ruins.

What remains of this ancient seat of warriors and statesmen, is now an habitation for bats and owls, whilst its martial owners are all buried in one promiscuous oblivion. 'Where are the chiefs of old? Where are our kings of mighty name? the fields of their battles are silent. Scarce their mossy tombs remain: we shall also be forgot. This lofty house shall fall: our sons shall not behold the ruins in the grass. They shall ask of the aged, where stood the walls of our fathers?'

Of the Village of Harewood, our notice must be brief; the first object that would strike a stranger is the superior style in which the houses are built, which give an air of magnificence to this Village, they are built of stone, and those which are intended for cottages, possess a neatness, and even elegance, which does honour to the liberal mind which erected them; how much more noble to have a mansion surrounded by comfortable dwellings, than to have to contrast a palace with an hovel.

It cannot be very interesting to many of our readers, to be informed of the various possessors of Harewood, before it came into the hands of the present family. We shall therefore only just state, that the unfortunate Earl of Strafford was possessor of it, and retired to it during the gathering of that storm, the explosion of which proved so fatal to him. His son WILLIAM, second Earl of Strafford, sold this estate during Cromwell's usurpation. Harewood was afterwards purchased by Sir JOHN CUTLER, who reduced the ancient castle of Harewood to ruins, for the sake of the timber. Of the descendants and heirs of this gentleman it was purchased by HENRY LASCELLES, Esq. father of EDWIN LASCELLES, Esq. (afterwards created Lord Harewood,) the late possessor.—Harewood is eight miles from Leeds, and about the same distance from Otley.

#### RIVER WHARF.

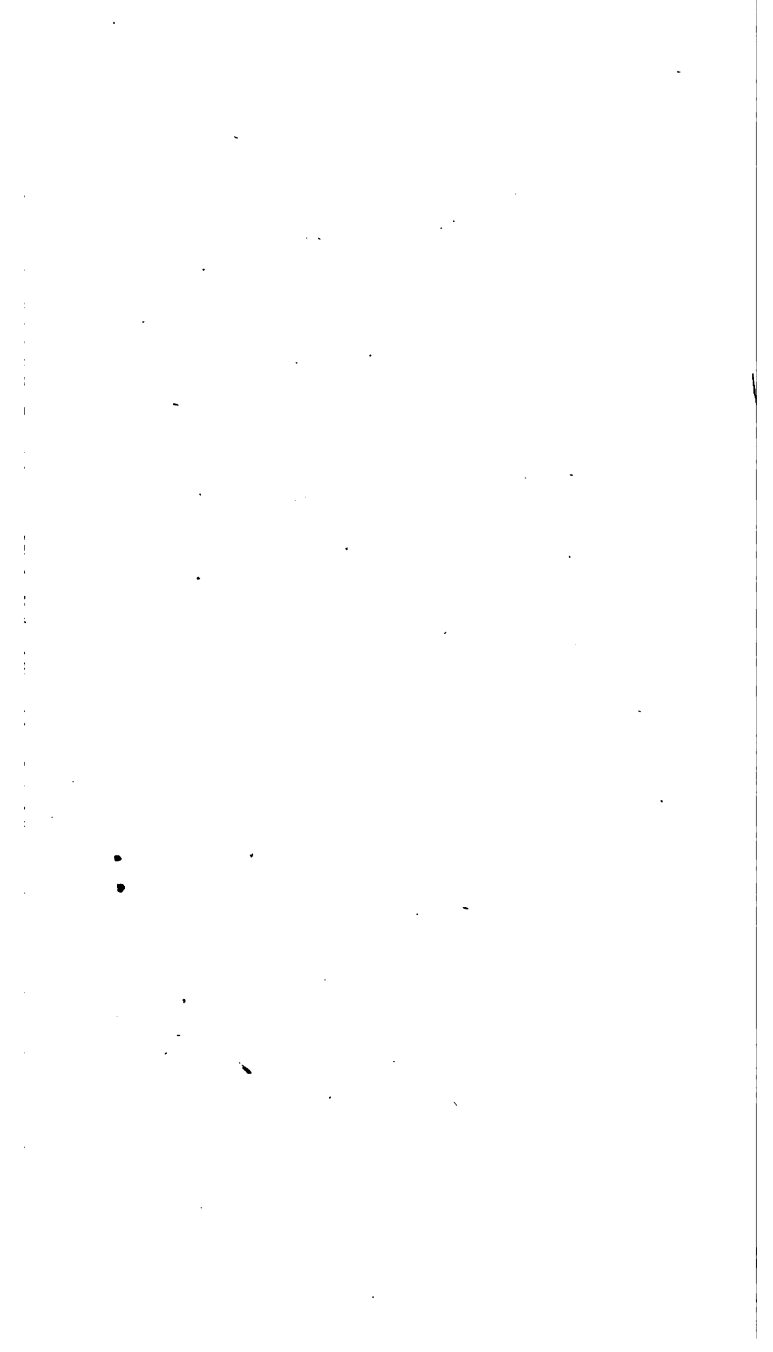
Though this River lies beyond our boundaries, yet as in the description of the ancient Castle of Harewood, we had occasion to mention it, it would be a kind of treason against taste and feeling, to refuse it a brief description in this work.

The source of this River would not at all lead to a conjecture of its distinguished features, as it rises from an insignificant spring on Langersdale-Chace, but after the progress of a few miles

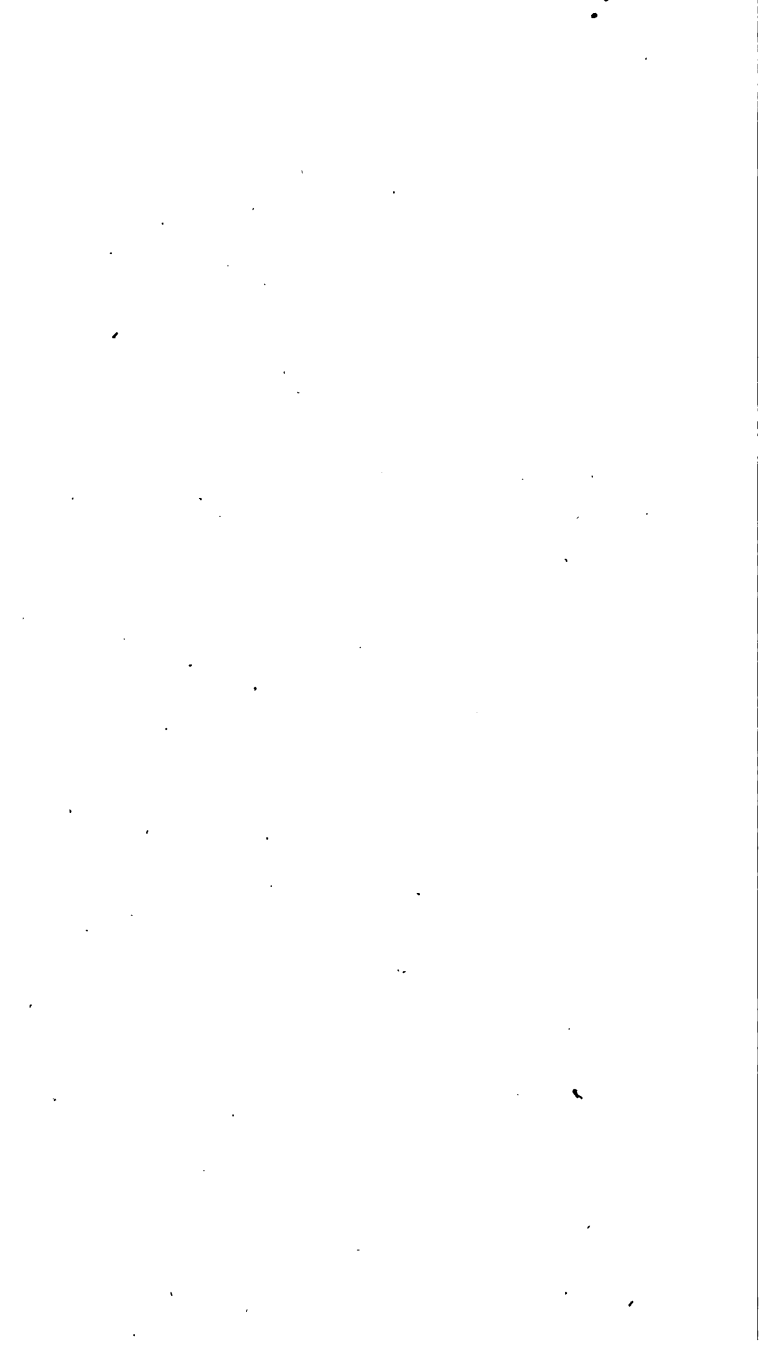
it assumes a new character, and is in the whole of its course, through a romantic and beautiful country, wonderfully animated and diversified; the Wharf is beautifully transparent, though not perfectly colourless, but resembles a brown chrysal, which tinges without obscuring the objects seen through its medium, and gives a richness and mellowness to its scenery, which is unspeakably pleasing. This River abounds with every species of the finny tribe, and has long been the favourite resort of anglers. To the lovers of the beautiful and picturesque, it furnishes every variety of scenery; sometimes it glides tranquilly along its winding mazes, at others it rushes with violence through a narrow channel, or thunders a cataract down the steep descent of precipitous rocks. At Tadcaster the Wharf becomes navigable, and loses much of its beautiful eccentricity; it enters the Ouse near Cawood.

Having thus finished our tour through such of the Villages in the neighbourhood, as seemed most worthy of notice, we shall close this Sketch with a Description and short History of the ABBEY at KIRKSTALL, which we trust will enable our Readers to derive additional satisfaction from their future visits to these celebrated ruins.





**THE HISTORY**  
**OF**  
**KIRKSTALL ABBEY.**



## KIRKSTALL ABBEY.

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### SECT. I.

‘Wolves shall succeed for teachers, grievous wolves,  
‘Who all the sacred mysteries of Heav’n  
‘To their own vile advantages shall turn  
‘Of lucre and ambition, and the truth  
‘With superstitions and traditions taint,  
‘Left only in those written records pure.’

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### MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.

**T**HOUGH the example of the venerable founder of the Christian Faith stood directly opposed to a life of Monastic seclusion, and the precepts of his religion require duties which can scarcely have existence in a convent; it is yet a fact of indisputable notoriety, that for many ages a life of ascetic mortification in the cave of an hermit, or the cell of a Monastery, was esteemed the perfection of the Christian character; by the endurance of which not only the salvation of the mortified recluse was secured, but a considerable overplus of merit vested in the church to be applied from time to time to the alleviation of those

torments, which ordinary Christians were exposed to in the place of purgatory. This dogma added immensely to the power and emolument of the church.

To develop the causes, and trace the several steps by which this corruption obtained so general an establishment in the Christian church, would be incompatible with the limits and design of this work; the following brief outline, of the more prominent features of the latter, may not however be considered as an unacceptable introduction to our immediate subject:

An Egyptian of the name of Paul, who lived in the seventh persecution, or about the year 260, is said to have been the first Christian anchorite, and to have been the immediate occasion of the establishment of Monastic Institutions; the abode of this recluse being discovered by a person of the name of Anthony, he was so pleased with its abstraction from the cares of the world, that meeting with other persons of similar views, he formed a code of regulations for their government; these regulations, and the mode of life to which they were subservient, soon found their way into Palestine and all the Eastern churches. From the East this gloomy institution soon passed into the West; St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, first planted it in Gaul, and his funeral is said to have been attended by no less than 2000 Monks.

The number of Monks in the fourth century is said to have been incredibly great; in Egypt alone they were computed at 70,000, which perhaps may be partly accounted for by observing, that at this period Monastic Institutions were much favoured by the mistaken piety of Christian Princes, who enacted many laws for their protection and patronage. Nor is it easy to conceive the respect with which the cloistered Monks were universally treated: whenever they journeyed, or wherever their retreat could be discovered, people of all ranks flocked to them, loading them with presents, and supplicating for an interest in their prayers.

The early Monks courted solitude, and were equally abstracted from the secular concerns of the church, and the general commerce of the world. Their successors it is well known transacted with great address the business of both these departments: the gross ignorance of the secular Clergy, (as they came afterwards to be named, in opposition to the Monks, who were called the Regular) greatly facilitated the introduction of the latter into all those departments, which could not be transacted without the knowledge of letters; their freedom from the business and amusements of common life, left them abundant leisure for literary avocations, and in which they soon obtained an obvious superiority over the other Clergy.

It was about the year 606 that the Monks were admitted into holy orders, and had all the privileges of the priesthood conferred upon them; and about this time Monasteries are said to have been first introduced into this country; when a considerable number are stated to have been founded, particularly in the Northern districts, but which were almost entirely destroyed by the Norway invaders about the year 867. In the seventh century the heads of great families were much in the habit of devoting their children to the Monastic life, probably hoping thereby to atone for the vices which they were unwilling to part with. Through the operation of this and other causes, the endowments of Monasteries became equal, and frequently superior to those of churches; and the influence of the Regulars with Statesmen, became greatly superior to that of the secular Clergy; and soon after this period we find them not only executing the functions of Ambassadors, but even invested with the military character, at the head of armies. About the ninth century, these singular institutions appear to have reached their highest point of elevation, Monarchs abandoning their regal honours, shut themselves up in Cloisters, under the idea of devoting themselves entirely to the service of the Deity, or rather to some of those numerous tutelar deities, who under the name of saints, usurped the honour, and more than shared the worship, due only to

the Supreme Being; and those who did not chuse prematurely to give up the pleasures of this world, put on the Monastic habit at the approach of death, that they might be considered as belonging to the fraternity, and be entitled to the benefit of its prayers. Many persons even made it an important part of their testamentary wills, that their bodies should be wrapped in old habits belonging to the different orders of the Monks.

Deprived by a rash vow of the legitimate means of gratifying one of the strongest passions of the human constitution, the consequence was irregular indulgence, and that of the most shameful kind; and about the tenth century, we find great complaints of their immoral conduct; they had become wealthy, and though wealth does not create vice, it gives additional means of gratifying it. To remedy in some measure these gross immoralities, the mendicant or begging Friars, who disclaimed all property, were introduced by Innocent the Third, and patronized by succeeding Pontiffs; but these itinerant Monks, under the pretence of charity, intermeddled with all affairs public and private, and were frequently employed by the Pope, who knew that they would go all lengths for the Church; and they were selected as the most proper persons to manage that dreadful instrument of spiritual tyranny, the Inquisition.



About the fifteenth century, Monastic Establishments begun to decline: the unruly passions of a despotic Monarch accomplished at a single blow their destruction in this country; the progress of the reformed religion lessened their numbers and their influence upon the Continent, and the late revolution in France, has absorbed the revenues, and opened the gates of the numerous Monasteries in that kingdom; and in Catholic countries in general they are rather tolerated than patronized, and it is not probable that their revenues will long escape the grasp of the civil power, some of which have already been diverted to other uses, and the rest will not perhaps be much longer spared.

Though these institutions seem now perfectly useless, yet in the turbulent and dark ages which succeeded the subversion of the Roman empire, they furnished a desirable asylum from the ravages of war, and prevented the total extinction of literature.

## SECT. II.

‘ When the Muses haunt  
‘ The marble porch, where Wisdom, wont to talk  
‘ With Socrates or Tully, hears no more,  
‘ Save the hoarse jargon of contentious Monks,  
‘ Or female superstitions, midnight prayers.’

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

*OF MONASTERIES IN ENGLAND.*

**W**E have already stated that the Monasteries founded in the sixth century in England, were destroyed by the Norway invaders: Some foreign Monks re-established them about the ninth century in York, Durham and Whitby. The Norman Conqueror greatly impoverished them, deposed their Abbots, and forced upon them a new code of regulations, very detrimental to these institutions.

Henry the First, is said to have been a favourite of all religious orders: nine or ten Monasteries were founded in his reign, and five new orders brought into England: Among these were the Cistercian (of which order was the Monastery of Kirkstall). In the reign of King Stephen, upwards of one hundred and thirty religious houses were built; in his reign the Knights Templars

were introduced into England. The whole number built or renewed by his successor, Henry the Second, amounted to one hundred and sixty four, and though the jealousy of the other orders had procured a canon against any more Cistercian Abbeys, yet nineteen of these erections were of that order. Richard the First is said to have disliked Monasteries, yet during his reign there were fifty-seven new foundations. In the reign of King John, a stately Abbey of the Cistercians was erected at Beaulieu, in Hampshire.

The power of the ecclesiastics had in the reign of Henry the Third increased to such an alarming degree, that an Act of Parliament was passed to restrain the superstitious prodigality of the people. Notwithstanding this check, the total number of religious houses founded in this reign amounted to upwards of two hundred. After this time, though there were many chantries, houses of friars, hospitals, and colleges founded, yet there were but few Monasteries built. Their subversion under Henry the Eighth we have already mentioned.

## SECT. III.

“ But let my duple feet never fail  
“ To walk the studious Cloister’s pale,  
“ And love the high embowed roof,  
“ With antique pillars, massy proof,  
“ And storied windows richly dight  
“ Casting a dim religious light.”



## FOUNDING OF KIRKSTALL ABBEY.

**T**HE Monastery at Kirkstall was not an original establishment, but was removed from Barnoldswick, from the Monastery of the Mount of St. Mary, and which, as the parent of the Abbey at Kirkstall, demands some notice. The Monastery of St. Mary, at Barnoldswick, was founded by Henry de Lacy Earl of Lincoln, in pursuance of a vow he had made during a painful and dangerous indisposition, and who for the discharge of it, assigned over the village of Barnoldswick: this town was held by him of Hugh Bigot Earl of Norfolk, at the yearly rent of five marks, and an annual present of an hawk; neglect in the payment of which exposed the house to the danger of an ejectment, though the gift had been confirmed by the authority of the Roman Pontiff.

In the year 1147, ALEXANDER, Prior of Fountains Abbey, was elected Abbot to the new

Monastery at Barnoldswick, and on the fourteenth of June, in the same year, accompanied by twelve Monks and ten Lay-Brothers, set out to take possession of this religious house.

The first act of the Abbot Alexander, was a deed of aggravated injustice, for not content with materially encroaching upon the rights of the church at Barnoldswick, he ordered it to be pulled down to the ground; a complaint against this unprecedented outrage was preferred to the Metropolitan; but Alexander, apprehensive of an equitable award, transferred the cause to Rome, where it was decided in favour of the Monks, upon the ground that religion was likely to be more benefitted by a Monastery than a Church; therefore it was right to pull down a Church for the good of a Monastery. Would to God, that the same abominable principle 'that the end sanctifies the means,' had never been practically exemplified in modern and more enlightened times.

The work, which was commenced under such unpromising auspices, did not prosper, the Scots ravaged their lands; their grain and their fruits were destroyed by a succession of unfavourable seasons; the soil itself too was sterile and unproductive; and the Abbot, almost exhausted by a struggle of six years, began to wish for a more safe and fruitful situation: accident brought him to the vale of Aire, where some humble Anchorites

had fixed their habitation ; the chief of these was SELETH, who related to ALEXANDER the circumstances which had brought him to that spot. The following is the substance of his narration: In the visions of the night the Holy Virgin appeared to him, and thus addressed him: ‘ Arise, ‘ Seleth, and go into the province of York, and ‘ seek diligently in the valley of Airedale for a ‘ place called Kirkstall, for there shalt thou prepare a future habitation for brethren serving my ‘ Son.’ Having satisfied himself that it was really the Virgin Mary that was talking to him, he proceeded in search of the favoured spot, and after many difficulties, he arrived at the entrance of a shady valley, which he was informed by the shepherds was called Kirkstall; here he fixed his abode, and as the Abbot learned from his brethren, his humble cell was greatly revered by the neighbouring villagers, and long was the favourite resort of the devotee. In times of distress, the prayers of Seleth were sought with fervour; and the fame of his piety spread through the whole country, and induced several young devotees to press upon him to accept the office of superior; with this request he complied, and this small fraternity built themselves cells beside the river Aire, and regulating themselves by the rules of the brethren of Lerath; enjoying all things in common, and procuring a livelihood by the work of their hands.

To this narration Alexander appeared to lend an attentive ear, but in reality he was occupied in devising the means of inducing the present inhabitants to give up their claim; for the beauty of the valley, the river winding through it, the quarries of freestone upon the spot, and the timber in the adjoining wood, had completely charmed him, and he was determined if possible to remove his house to this sequestered spot; the mode to be pursued to obtain the sanction of these simple hermits soon occurred to him; he talked to them of the danger of their souls from the want of a stricter rule, the necessity of a regular superior, and above all, the addition of priests to a fraternity of laymen. Leaving these insinuations to produce their proper effect, he repaired to his patron Henry de Lacy, explained to him the inconveniences of their present situation, the necessity of a removal, and intreated his assistance in obtaining a grant of Kirkstall from William of Poitou, the immediate Lord of the fee. Having succeeded in this, the hermits were easily disposed of, some consenting to be incorporated with the new society, and others to transfer their title for a sum of money.

On the fourteenth of June, 1153, the Convent finally abandoned Barnoldswick, which was converted into a Grange. The structure of a magnificent Abbey was vigorously begun at Kirkstall; their patron supplied them with corn and money,

and himself laid the foundation of the church, which he finished at his own expence, and hastened the erection of such buildings as were wanted for their immediate use; the whole was finished in thirty years, under the superintendence of Alexander, who, whatever may be thought of his moral character, was certainly an able and active man. It may be mentioned as a proof of his good taste, that he brought the timber for the buildings from a distance, leaving uninjured the fine woods which surrounded the Abbey. Alexander presided thirty five years, in which he acquired for his house their principal estates.



## SECT. IV.

‘Twas then thy roofs re-echoed to the sound  
Of midnight dirges, solemn and profound;  
Or wrapt in silence and mysterious gloom,  
Around some consecrated image shed  
The pallid lustre on the unconscious dead.’

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HISTORY OF THE ABBEY,  
*AND SUCCESSION OF ABBOTS.*

**A**LLEXANDER was succeeded by HAGETH, Prior of Fountains, a man of great strictness and austerity, but who proved himself incapable of managing the pecuniary affairs of the house with propriety; never reflecting, as his Monkish historian observes, that a small income is inadequate to great expence: and though the house at his accession was not rich, it was not oppressed with debts; but the evils which arose from improvident expenditure were not the whole of their misfortunes, for Henry the Second, by the advice of Roger de Mowbray, dispossessed the house of their best estate, the Grange of Mickletwaite with all the fees of Collingham and Bardsey; these occasioned great murmurs, and the Monks imputed to their Abbot, not only the loss of the estate, but of some sacred utensils and orna-

ments which he had disposed of in order to propitiate the King, but which failed of its designed effect, for he was obdurate, and despised the censures of the church; and neither the humble solicitations of the Abbot, nor the golden chalice, nor yet a manuscript copy of the gospel, which was probably all they possessed, could move him from his purpose. In addition to all their other evils, a great mortality broke out among their cattle; almost overwhelmed by these disasters, it was resolved to break up the Convent for a time, in the hope perhaps of working upon the compassion of the King; but in this hope they were disappointed, for Henry died without making restitution, and according to the opinion of the Monks, lost all chance of redeeming his soul. The latter year of this Abbot's administration was more prosperous, experience probably taught him a little worldly wisdom, and he was removed to a greater charge—to Fountains Abbey, where he died: he was succeeded in the Abbey of Kirkstall by LAMBERT, who never attended to temporal matters, but devoted himself to the exercise of contemplative devotion. In his presidency the Grange of Cliviges was lost; it was claimed by Sir Richard Bland, and given up to him; and their patron, Robert de Lacy, gave them the village of Akerington in lieu of it. As soon as this village was legally transferred to the

Monastery; the Abbot removed the inhabitants, and converted it into a Grange; but the inhabitants, whom he had dispossessed of their habitations, burnt the Grange with all its furniture, and slew the Lay-Brothers who managed it. This outrage greatly displeased Robert de Lacy, who determined to banish the offenders and their families; but having appeased the Abbot by the most humiliating submission, and the payment of a sum of money for the damage they had done, the Abbot interceded with that nobleman on their behalf, and obtained their pardon. The Abbot immediately rebuilt the Grange, and soon after died, and was succeeded by TURGESIUS, a true Ascetic, of whom a cotemporary historian gives the following account: 'He was a severe chastiser of his own body, and all the motions of the flesh; ever clad in hair cloth, and always repeating to himself, they that are clad in soft raiment are in kings houses.' He totally abstained from wine and animal food; neither the heats of summer, nor the piercing cold of winter, could induce him to make any change in his cloathing, which consisted only of a tunic and a cowl; he also shed abundance of tears, scarcely refraining from weeping in common conversation. Having presided over this Monastery nine years, he retired to Fountains Abbey, where he soon after died.

Experience had now sufficiently convinced the Monks, that devotion was not the only quality requisite for the management of their affairs; they therefore avoided this error, by electing **HELIAS**, Monk of Rock, who was a man accustomed to business, and who soon brought their affairs into proper order. Of the succeeding Abbots, except **GRIMSTON** and **BIRDSALL**, little is known, more than their names, and the time of their election, or decease, or resignation. We shall give the list unbroken, and afterwards shortly state the circumstances which attended the administration of the before-named Abbots.

*LIST OF THE ABBOTS OF KIRKSTALL.*

	elected.
1. Alexander, . . . . .	1147 died.
2. Ralph Hageth, . . . . .	1182 resigned.
3. Lambert . . . . .	1191 died.
4. Turgesius . . . . .	— resigned.
5. Helias, from Rock Abbey .	1209
6. Ralph de Newcastle . . .	— died.
7. Walter . . . . .	1221
8. Mauricius . . . . .	— died.
9. Adam . . . . .	1249
10. Hugh de Michelay . . .	1259
11. Simon . . . . .	1262
12. William de Lacy . . . .	1269
13. Gilbert de Cotles . . . .	1275
14. Henry Carr . . . . .	1280

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|---|-----------------|----------|
| 15. *Hugh de Grimston . . . .   | 1284            |          |
| 16. *John de Birdsall . . . .   | —               |          |
| 17. Walter . . . . .  | 1313            |          |
| 18. William . . . . .   | 1341            |          |
| 19. Roger de Leedes . . . . .   | 1349            |          |
| 20. John Thornbern . . . . .  | 1378            |          |
| 21. John de Bārdesey . . . . .  | 1399            |          |
| 22. William Grayson . . . . .   | —               | displac. |
| 23. Thomas Wymbersley . . . .   | 1468            | died.    |
| 24. Robert Kelingbec . . . . .  | 1499            |          |
| 25. William Stockdale . . . . .   | 1501            |          |
| <del>26. William Marshall . . . . .</del>   | <del>1509</del> |          |
| 26. John Ripley, the last Abbot, was confirmed July 21, 1528, and he surrendered the house into hands of the King's commissioners, Nov. 22, 1540. |                 |          |

Under these Abbots (marked \*) an interesting transaction took place. Ever since the administration of the Abbot Simon, the Monastery had been sinking under an accumulating debt; the expedient of loans from the enormous interest they were obliged to pay, greatly aggravated the evil, so that they were reduced to a state of insolvency; their creditors became impatient: in this dilemma they applied for royal aid, not for the exercise of its munificence, but that the royal authority might be exerted to compel their creditors to afford them longer time. The following letters we copy from Dr. Whitaker's History of Craven; a work which abounds with valuable information:

‘ Brother Hugh, called Abbot of Kirkstall, to  
‘ his beloved in Christ, the Convent of the  
‘ same house, health and blessing in the  
‘ bond of peace:

‘ Our distresses at the last general chapter with respect to Simon being ended, we set out for Gascony on an uncertain errand, and with a bitter and heavy heart, as our beloved brother and son John de Birdsall will inform you. But after many hindrances, and with great difficulty, both from the unexpected length of the journey, and the extreme poverty of Burgundy, which we traversed through thickets, rather than through highways, we met with the King in the remotest part of Gascony. On the way we were afflicted with a quartan fever, which reduced us so low that we despaired of life; but blessed be the heavenly Physician! nothing more than a trifling remnant of the complaint now hangs about us.

‘ Here we found our patron the Earl of Lincoln, with other great men of the Court, attending upon the King; and to him we explained fully and to the best of our ability the distresses of the house. He was touched with pity at the representation, and promised us all the information and assistance in his power \* \* \* \* \*  
[Here follow several details, which are not intelligible.]

‘ And that the treasurer and barons of the exchequer aforesaid may faithfully execute these

writs, we have letters of recommendation addressed to them from all the earls, bishops, barons, and other counsellors of the King, attending upon him at this place. But because the King was not inclined to interfere with the debt due to the Cardinal, or to Tockles the Jew, or with the wool, although we had many intercessors with him; yet by the grace of God obtained through the mediation of your prayers, and by the mediocrity of our own understanding, reflecting that if either of these debts remained undischarged, it would be productive of great inconvenience to the house, we hit at length upon a remedy which is likely to be effectual.

‘ For having shewn to the earl and his council, an extent of our lands in Blackburnshire, besides Estwysell, and another of our lands in Rounday, Shadwell and Seacroft, it appeared that the above mentioned lands and tenements, with the addition of £4, which for several years last past we have received out of the exchequer of Pontefract, deducting every thing which in reason ought to be deducted, would amount to £41 7s. 9d. yearly. Now this revenue might be sold for £413 7s. 6d. What need of more words? Let there be no buying or sale of these premises, but a dextrous exchange, so that instead of this £41 7s. 9d. deducting uncertain and untried improvements, the possibility of which we are not convinced of, we shall receive

yearly out of the exchequer at Pontefract twenty-four marks for ever, with this excellent condition annexed, that the said earl, in order to discharge the debt due to the Cardinal and the Jew, engages for the payment of 350 marks, under the penalty of repairing whatever damage may accrue to us by any irregularity in the payment.

‘ But what it was that touched the Abbot of Fountains with compassion, by what reasons he was overcome, and how induced to give up a great deal for a little, it would not be prudent to trust to paper. And, that we might not be deceived in any of the premises, we have been careful to enroll in Chancery the obligations we have received for payment of the above sums, and the contract in like manner. Both these moreover are ratified by the King’s confirmation, which is in our hands.

‘ And now, brethren, from what has gone before, ye may in some measure understand what trouble we have undergone. If therefore we have done well, think of a recompence; if otherwise or that we have been lukewarm in your concern, spare our infirmity.

‘ But we require you that ye labour day and night to the utmost of your ability, that every thing belonging to you, excepting the crops upon the ground, which cannot be removed without being destroyed, may be entirely taken away before the Earl’s messenger, whom we purposely de-



tain here with his horse and groom, shall arrive to take livery and seisin of the lands.

‘ And whatever is incapable of being removed, abandon peaceably, because the said earl by his letters, directed to Sir R. de Salem, which he will receive by the bearer of these, hath required him to purchase at a fair price, whatever you are inclined to sell within his bailiwick, and to afford you every other accommodation consistent with the livery of the lands.

‘ It will not be prudent to shew these letters to any one; but, until you have all safe, keep your own counsel secret from every one out of the bosom of the chapter.

‘ And because we desire to be informed of what has happened since our departure, before we make any new contract, which might possibly interfere with your present circumstances, we require you on sight and hearing hereof to inform us of your situation by the swiftest messenger you have. Send some money too by the same hand, however you come by it, even though it be taken from the sacred oblations, that we may at least be able to purchase necessities while we are labouring in your vineyard. In this we earnestly intreat you not to fail, for in truth we were never so destitute before. Farewell my beloved! Peace be with you. Amen.

‘ From Castle Reginald,  
on the Mcrow of St. Martin, A. D. 1287.’

this enormous ruin still remains in the body of the church, and has assumed the appearance of a natural mount. The high altar was situated at the East end of the church, and on each side of it were three smaller ones; but to whom dedicated cannot be ascertained. To each altar a small distinct chapel was appropriated, and which still remain nearly entire; the excavations for the consecrated water in a recess in the wall are still distinctly visible. The principal window at the East end is large, and even in ruins exhibits marks of a chaste design. The roof between the tower and the East end was adorned with fretwork and intersecting arches, the ribs of which are still visible.

The Cloister quadrangle, which incloses an area of 115 feet by 143, within the walls, has suffered but little from the ravages of the general destroyer—Time. The upper apartments exhibit a very curious and interesting appearance: the wild flowers, the tangling shrubs, and the lofty elm, now grow where the couch of the inhabitants of the Cloister formerly stood, and have converted its chambers into a shrubbery, and forcibly recall to recollection the description of the hanging gardens of that once mighty city, Babylon. The court of the Cloister, which was the cemetery of its inhabitants, is now a garden; but its decorations and arrangements

do not harmonize with the solemn magnificence of the objects that surround it.

The original refectory is a magnificent vaulted room, supported by two fine cylindrical columns, each consisting of a single stone, one of which was remarkable for being always moist, and to which vulgar credulity ascribed extraordinary virtue. These pillars have within these few years been faced with masonry, from an apprehension that they would be too weak to support the immense incumbent weight. Various other repairs have lately been made in different parts of the Abbey; but we regret to say, without the least portion of taste, new masonry has been employed, when stone, grey with age, might have been had in sufficient abundance on the very spot: the new erections instead of having the appearance of being ragged with age, are built as smooth as a park wall. We trust that in any future repairs, some judicious person will be consulted, and that such incongruities may in future be prevented. The Chapter-house appears to have been built at two different periods; the latter part of it was but little prior to the dissolution.

Perhaps the most favourable season for viewing these ruins is early in the morning, when the happy disposition of light and shade, occasioned by the rising sun, thrown upon the Eastern front, contrasted with the impenetrable gloom of the vaulted apartments within, is uncommonly strik-

ing. There is generally attached to all ancient decayed buildings, some popular story of subterraneous passages, which according to vulgar tradition conduct to concealed treasures. This Abbey is not singular in this respect, but it is probable that the supposed entrance to this passage, which is shewn to convince the incredulous, is only one of the larger drains belonging to the Monastery.

These ruins occupy a very considerable area their length from North to South measuring 340 feet, and from East to West 445 feet; they are situated on the North side of the Aire, about 60 yards distant from it, and about a quarter of a mile from the bridge at Kirkstall.

## SECT. VII.

'Thy haughty tow'rs, which rais'd aloft in air,  
 'Tempests have wreck'd, and hurricanes shall tear;  
 'Till, low in dust, no vestige to be seen,  
 'Thy walls lie level with the tufted green:  
 'Yet shall the spot to every Muse be dear,  
 'And pensive Genius oft shall wander here.'

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## ANTIQUITIES, &amp;c.

**A**T a short distance from the Abbey is a farm house, which was formerly the principal entrance into the Monastery; on the ceiling of one of the rooms in this house, is the following inscription:

'Mille et Quingentos postquam compleverit orbis.  
 'Tresq: & ter demos per sua signi Deus.  
 'Prima salutiferi post cunabula Christi,  
 'Cui datur omnium honor, gloria, laus, & amor.'

Mr. Thoresby, the Leeds antiquarian, describes many curious painted bricks found among the ruins of the Abbey of different sizes, some of which were in the shape of those now in use, but larger: the largest of them was about eleven inches in length and five in breadth, and two inches in thickness. These bricks were found

near the foundation, and afford a reasonable presumption, that bricks were used in England upwards of 600 years ago. And in the year 1713, a stone coffin was found in the cemetery, containing the remains of a body, the bones of which were entire; the cover of the coffin was not one complete piece, but composed of very curious tiles of various colours and forms, circular as well as square and triangular, larger than those used in tessellated pavements, yet less than those used in after ages. It might be inferred from the pains and expence in the adorning of the coffin, that this was the remains of a person of distinction, were it not for the circumstance of the place of interment being without the Abbey, which renders the supposition of Mr. Thoresby very probable, that it was a distinguished artisan, probably famous for some discovery or improvement in the art of making or adorning tiles. There was an inscription upon it, but the labourers had either lost or misplaced most of the letters, of which only three were to be found painted upon as many small tiles.

A few years ago the tombstone of one of the last of the society was found in fragments, though nothing more of the inscription was legible than

' M. Nachus hujus domus,  
A. D. 1530.'

At the same time the remains of a coffin, consisting of thin plates of beaten iron, were discovered.

Several articles in the domestic economy of the house have also been preserved by curious people, among others the Abbot's drinking glass, which from the dimensions given of it, appears to have been sufficiently large; it is described as follows: in depth about one foot, and nine inches round the edge, beautifully waved with white enamel; a salt-seller is also described as having eight triangular salts placed in the stock, which was of coarse marble, with a hollow for one of silver at the top.

A curious altar piece is said to be preserved, formerly belonging to the Abbey, on which was painted the history of Joseph of Arimathea's entombing our Saviour. Eight alabaster statues, gilded and enclosed in a space of nine inches broad and thirteen long, were attached to this piece; and also the iron box for preserving the important papers of the society.

A great variety of benefactions were at different times bequeathed to the Monastery at Kirkstall, by persons in almost every situation in life: to enter into a detail of these would be a task as unprofitable as irksome; it may however be useful just to state, that at the visitation of this Monastery in the year 1301, the stock of cattle consisted of 216 draught oxen, 160 cows, 152 yearlings and bullocks, 90 calves, and 4000 sheep and lambs.—The principal

estates of the house were situated at Addle, Allerton, Allerton-Gledhow, Beeston, Burley and Headingley; at which period their revenue amounted to £329. 2s. 11d. according to Dugdale; but according to an account of Speed's to £512. 13s. 4d. per ann. but though their revenue was very considerable, they were in the early part of the establishment much encumbered with debt. It was however paid off long before the dissolution of the house.

The following fragment of a Will, which was executed about ten years before the dissolution of the Abbey, will shew both the relative value of money at that period, and the real price of corn, compared with the other necessities of life. The manuscript was put into the hands of the Author under circumstances which remove all suspicion of its genuineness:

### **In the Name of God, Amen.**

4th of Feb. 1530. 'I, THOMAS WARD, of Leeds, of sound mind and good memory, maketh my present testament and last will, in this manner following: Imprimis. I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to our blessed lady St. Mary the Virgin, and to all saints in heaven; and my body to be buried within the church of St. Peter, in Leeds, in the alley before our lady; and I bequeath to the high-altar 6s. 8d. the one half for tythes and oblations forgotten, the other half to the



use of the blessed sacraments: also I will that my wife have have all my lands and take, during her natural life, if she keep herself unmarried; if she be married, then I will that all my lands which I purchased of Peter Bell, of the Head-Row, remain, and go to the use and mending of the highways about Leeds, after the discretion and mind of the churchwardens for the time; I give part to the way going to Wyke-bridge and Newton-lane; another part to the way going to Christal-Bridge and Headingley; another part going to Beeston and Armley; another part going to Hunslet. Also I will that my wife have the house that I dwell in, and another thereby, with a pair of tenters, during her life, whether she marry or not; and after her decease, I will that both the house and tenters remain, part to Jesu Guild and our Lady's service; in Leeds, equally to be divided betwixt them, and they to make an oblation for my soul, and all my friends' souls for ever, after the discretion and minds of such feoffees as are made to that use. Also I will that my wife be my full executrix of this my last will and testament, and to dispose of my goods, and fulfill my will to the health of my soul; and I make six visors of this my will—John Casson to see my will fulfilled, and to help and succour my wife; and I will that he have for his labour my aumbling horse that I ride on. Also I bequeath to the building of the South side of the church, if it be taken down, the sum of 20s. and

if it be not taken down, I will that my wife dispose of the 20s. after her mind; also I will that the day of my burial, mass and dirge be sung for my soul; and I will that every priest have 8*d.* Also I will that every one of my children have 8*d.* and every one of my brother's children and sister's children 4*d.* Item, I give to my brother 20s. or two kye, whether my wife thinketh better; and I will that Jannet Little have one why, or 10s. in money; and I will that Richard Casson, my godson, have one horse, and Agnes Watson 3*s.* 4*d.* and Margaret Harrison a green gown, or 3 yards of cloth, whether my wife thinketh better; also I will that Thomas Hirst's wife have 6*s.* 8*d.* or one quarter of wheat. I will also that Christopher Denby, and Sir Robert Nevile, knight, Ralph Hopton, esq. and their heirs, stand and be feoffees, as well by surrender as by deed, of, in. and upon all my lands and tenements, both freeholds and copyholds, for the strengthening, and forming, and fulfilling this my last will. First, I will that all my feoffees stand and be feoffees for the use of my wife, and for the term of her life, and suffer her peaceably to take and receive all manner of rents of the Head-Row, as well freeholds as copyholds, which I purchased of Peter Bell, of Leeds, lately deceased; and after her decease, to the use and mending and upholding of the highways about Leeds, according to the intent and effect of one deed; and this is my last will for ever.'

The scite of this Monastery was granted by Henry the Eighth to Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury. Its present proprietor is the Earl of Cardigan, who allows an annuity to a person to superintend the ruins, and prevent as much as possible all further spoliation of this venerable pile. On this account the different entrances to the Abbey have been closed. Admittance is, however, never refused, upon application to a person who keeps the key, and resides near the spot; an additional key is also kept at the inn upon the bridge for the convenience of the public.

We shall take our leave of the reader with observing, that the undistinguishing destruction of Monastic books and writings in the reign of the imperious Henry, renders it impossible to give a complete history of almost any of the ancient religious houses in this country.

## LINES,

Addressed to a company of young Persons, whilst viewing the  
Ruins of Kirkstall Abbey.

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BY CORNELIUS CAYLEY.

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SEE how the sharp, corroding tooth of Time  
Hath rent these massy walls!—The stones dissolve!  
And, like the feeble sinews of old age,  
Relax, and shrink, and tumble to the ground!

Ah me! shall ruthless Time's devouring pow'r  
Thus bow the firmest works of busy man?  
'Tis even so!—Yea, lastly, he himself,  
The great projector of these haughty piles,  
With all his riches, honours, and renown,  
Hides his poor head in dust—and is no more!

Come, then, my friends, upon a surer base  
Let's build such pleasures as will ne'er decay;  
Such as in endless youthful beauty shine  
When life's gay dream (like to a tale that's told)  
Is past, and in oblivion's shade forgot.  
Safe on that Rock, which rears its noble head  
Beyond mutation's stroke, and ev'ry foe,  
Let's build our heav'nly house!—A house wherein  
No moth, nor rust, nor thief, nor time, nor death,  
Can e'er approach, its treasures to annoy.

Now in your bloom, and health, and smiling years,  
The golden season grasp!—Now lay up store  
In fairest mansions of celestial peace!  
So, when this earthly, transient scene is o'er,  
Bright Cherub Angels, natives of that land,  
Shall lead you, raptur'd, to your radiant home,  
Where all the myriads of the ransom'd throng  
Shall hail you welcome to the mount of bliss!  
There God's unsully'd light, and life, and love,  
In one incessant glorious blaze shall crown  
Our souls with joy and everlasting rest,—  
Beyond what man or angel's tongue can name,  
Or largest stretch of human heart desire!

FINIS.

E. BAINES, PRINTER, }  
LEEDS.









